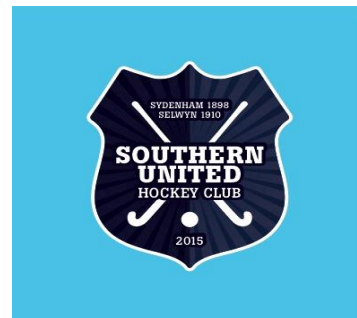


Wednesday 30th March 2016

To all SUHC Members,

**Southern United Hockey Club
HEALTH AND SAFETY**



Congratulations and thank you to all for your efforts over the last couple of months. It has been a huge effort from you all to get to this point in the season. I am sure you are looking forward to the first competition games as much as we are.

This letter covers an issue that is of great prominence in NZ at the moment, **Health and Safety**. Everyone will be loosely aware of changes to the Health and Safety in Employment Act, coming in to force on 4th April 2016. Whilst the changes aren't targeted at volunteer based sports, we are taking this opportunity to highlight the importance of Health and Safety, and the significance we as a Club place on making sure you all get to play the game in a safe and enjoyable way.

With this in mind, I would like to outline the collective Health and Safety expectations for the season. Health and Safety is fundamentally about everyone doing a small amount to make sure we do the right thing, therefore the expectations include the Club, Coaches and Managers, and the players.

The Club will:

- Provide one first aid kit for every team. These will be provided to each team manager/coach and need to be re-stocked and returned at the end of the year.
- Develop a club register of all hockey injuries requiring treatment by a medical professional. Annually, the club will report injuries and review, in conjunction with CHA, mitigation/reduction options.
- Work with CHA to develop and adopt an appropriate Health and Safety strategy.

The players will:

- Wear appropriate protective equipment at every game and training. This includes shin pads, mouthguards, face masks etc.
- Inform your team coach/manager of any hockey injuries requiring treatment by a medical professional.

Coaches and Managers will:

- Ensure all players wear appropriate protective equipment at every game and training.
- Ensure the first aid kit is at each game and training.
- Provide a summary to the club on a weekly basis of any player injuries requiring medical treatment.
- Inform the club if additional safety equipment is required.

Hockey is a sport that we all play for the love of it, and for many it forms part of our weekly ritual of staying fit and healthy. Although most of the items discussed above are common sense, too often the common sense actions are overlooked. If anyone would like to discuss the Club's Health and Safety strategies, or have suggestions for improvements, please contact me.

Yours Sincerely,

Jonathan Pooch
SUHC President
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