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# HAMPSTEAD HOCKEY CLUB

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(FOUNDED 1891)

## EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING

Monday 15 August 1988

From the preliminary notice you will know that the EGM has been called to discuss and vote on the possibility of leaving the Hornsey Club.

This is an important decision facing the Club - probably the most important since Hampstead H C moved to Hornsey nearly 30 years ago.

Earlier this summer we learnt that Westminster City Council were building a second artificial turf pitch alongside the current one at Paddington Recreation Ground. Discussions have been held between Hampstead H C and Westminster City Council and we have arranged preferential use of the pitches. The "old" artificial pitch is floodlit, but the new one is not.

Next season all Hampstead H C home games will be played on one and/or the other pitch between the times of 11.30 am and 4.00 pm on Saturdays. One pitch is booked for one match on nearly every Sunday. However, Paddington Rec is a public facility and we do not have exclusive rights to its use at other times. For this season we have been unable to book times for training facilities on these pitches, but expect to do so for next season. Nor are there any astro bookings available for colts this year, although Westminster City Council is keen that we develop them. We may be able, however, to train colts on the tarmac 5 a-side pitches.

The changing rooms at the Rec have undergone considerable rebuilding. The building now has separate, lockable rooms, similar to those at New River.

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Since all home games will be played at Paddington, the committee felt it wise to consider alternative social facilities. The Hornsey Club lies some four or five miles away from Paddington.

The EGM is being held at Paddington Sports Club, which you are being asked to consider as a new home. Paddington Sports Club is principally a club of bowls and tennis but there are also two squash courts, a television room and snooker tables. The clubhouse, we are told, is reasonably quiet on Saturday evenings in winter, unless there is a bowls match.

Paddington Sports Club can offer us the following:

- social membership (non-playing) for £25.00 per year. This entitles you to use the clubhouse at any time during the year.
- waiver of joining fee.
- since we would be non-playing members, we would be discouraged from using the showers, and we are not allowed to use the car park.
- one year's trial basis, then with the intention of negotiating a longer deal.
- teas can be provided at a price still to be agreed. Paddington are negotiating terms with outside caterers and we would negotiate terms and times with them.
- the bar will remain open all afternoon provided that there is sufficient demand.
- we may organise our own social events, provided that they do not clash with Paddington's. As at Hornsey, club members of other sections may not be excluded from using the clubhouse during social events.
- you will see that the clubhouse is being refurbished at the moment.
- all members, social or playing, are liable to an automatic suspension from the club for one month if they trespass on to the bowls green.

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The options available are:

- a. stay at the Hornsey Club and use the Paddington pitches;
- b. leave the Hornsey Club, and link up with Paddington Sports Club;

a. Staying at the Hornsey Club

Advantages

- security
- co-ownership
- all avenues of potential astro development nearby not yet exhausted
- close to (many of our) homes

Disadvantages

- far from pitches
- only remote prospects of astro development
- cost - we shall have to find more money to cover the additional cost of pitch hire
- decline in sociability

b. Leaving Hornsey/Joining Paddington

Advantages

- social core
- independence and financial control
- near to pitches
- all home games on astro
- cost

Disadvantages

- insecurity
- loss of co-ownership

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COST

Pitch Hire

The cost of the two astros at Paddington this season will be £5,500. Our budget at the Hornsey Club is for £4,800. If we stay at Hornsey we will have to find the shortfall of £700, or approximately £5.00 levy on all members.

If we move to Paddington S C, we become a Westminster-based club, and can negotiate discounts which we expect to be in the region of 10-20%. In return, Westminster City Council would like us to change the club's name to something like Hampstead & Westminster H C.

a. Staying at Hornsey

Annual membership	£55.00
Match fee (basis 18 games) excl teas	£54.00
Shortfall on pitch hire	£ 5.00
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	£114.00

b. Leaving Hornsey/Joining Paddington

Social membership	£25.00
Pitch hire	£40.00
Association fees	£10.00
Equipment	£ 5.00
Administration	£10.00
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	£90.00

The format of the meeting will be:

1. Opening remarks by club captain;
2. Review of this paper

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3. Open debate and questions via the chair

4. Vote

Please bear in mind that the committee is not necessarily advocating that you should vote one way or the other. It is a highly emotive topic of discussion, but we ask you to put your subjective views to one side and consider WHAT IS BEST FOR THE CLUB'S FUTURE. This is what we must discuss and decide together.

Please think very carefully about this proposal. It is of major importance to all of us who enjoy hockey at Hampstead H C - now and in the future.

The meeting on 15 August is set to commence at 7.30 pm. Please try to arrive as early as possible and take the opportunity to look around.

ROGER ROOKES  
Secretary