

WELCOME TO NOTTINGHAM

A warm welcome to the Nottingham Hockey Centre as Premier League Hockey returns to the University of Nottingham. We'd like to extend warm wishes to the supporters, players, staff and officials joining us today.

We are looking forward to two exciting fixtures across our Men's and Women's teams as we officially lift the curtain on the 2023/24 English Hockey League Season season.

This weekend, in the Premier League our Men's 1 will welcome Old Georgians and the Women's 1 will take on Loughborough University Students.









Saturday 16th September 4.30pm PB

Saturday 16th September 6.30pm PB

WE HOPE YOU ENJOY THE GAMES THIS WEEKEND







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"YOU'RE ABLE TO SEE OLYMPIANS UP CLOSE AND PERSONAL"

With the academic year fast approaching, accompanying it will be the sporting action of the Green and Gold. It might come as a surprise for some, if I were to tell you that Olympians are in action against the University of Nottingham, on a weekly basis. However, regularly competing against Olympic athletes is the norm for UoN's elite hockey players, with both first teams playing in England's Premier Division. I got the opportunity to have a chat with the Head of Men's Performance Hockey, James Bateman, as we discussed what will certainly be a massive year for UoN Hockey!

After being planted at the bottom of the league table after 11 games, the Men's 1s secured important wins over the University of Exeter, East Grinstead and Brooklands Manchester University to maintain their Premier Division status.

The Men's 1s also topped Phase 3 and used that form to with their first BUCS Gold in eight years to round off a remarkable turn of form.

Following the relegation of Brooklands and Exeter, UoN remain the only university side in the Men's Premier Division. James Bateman reveals his hopes and ambitions for the Men's 1s in the upcoming season, ahead of Saturday's season opener against Old Georgians.

As pre-season draws to a close, what are you looking to achieve with the men's side this season?

"The men's side are looking to consolidate our style of play as we go into this weekend. We have had a really good block of pre season that has been short and sharp but the boys have trained really hard. We're really excited to see the fruits of our labour and what happens this weekend."

After narrowly avoiding relegation last season, what will the side look to do differently?

"I think the nature of a student side is that [avoiding relegation] will always be the position that we're in. We always have quite a high turnover of players so I think, every year that we stay in the Premier Division in an achievement and we will be looking to learn from last season's experience. I'd be absolutely over the moon if we can break into the play-offs at the end of the season but the first priority is retaining Premier Division status and then we can build from there."

How does it feel to be the only university side in the Premier Division and what does this say about UoN Hockey as a whole?

"I think it just shows where we are as a university sport. We're really looking to kick on and progress by developing young players. It really is testament to the programme that's been in place for the last few years and the investment we've been given from the university."

"It's fantastic and just shows the equality of men's and women's sport, that we have both programmes on equal footing in the university's eyes. That's fantastic and really shows the value of sports, that we can keep developing young people to be able to go onto the next exciting part of their lives."

Max Anderson, Harry Stone and alumnus Conor Williamson have all represented England at under-21 level, the latter of which was selected to play in the EuroHockey Championships over the summer. Max and Harry are also in the GB Elite Development Programme (EDP), which is a programme that helps young athletes transition into senior international hockey.

Read full interview here





BEYOND THE STICKS

WE CAUGHT UP WITH FORMER HOCKEY PRESIDENT FERGUS STEVENS FOLLOWING HIS GRADUATION THIS SUMMER

Article by Alex Sheldon



FERGUS STEVENS

When were you at UoN? 2019-2023

What degree did you study? MSci Mathematical Physics

What are you doing now?

I have just started work in London as a Fundraising Operations Assistant at Movember, the men's health charity. Day to day I get to engage with key fundraisers within sport and support them in their campaigns. It's a rewarding job that I enjoy, working in a great team, so I'm very lucky! When my contract ends in December I'm looking to continue to working in London (job offers extremely welcome) and playing at Hampstead and Westminster HC.

Were you on committee and what was it like?

I was Treasurer in my second year, and President in my third and fourth years. Being on committee definitely made my university experience more challenging, but in the same sense, more rewarding. The skills I learnt revolved around interpersonal skills and organisation - leading a team of people, delegating tasks and solving problems that inevitably arose, occasionally on Wednesday nights.

How did being on committee benefit you in a professional sense?

I learnt far more valuable skills from my roles on committee than I did from my degree at univeristy. In addition to the skills that you pick up are the connections, which have proven useful now stepping into the world of work. Sport is a great network, much further reaching than people realise, and being on committee puts you in a great position to meet alumni, staff and other valuable connections.

What was your favourite memory from uni?

Christmas Cup 2022 has to be my favourite day of university. Off the back of the success of the inaugural event in 2021, the day was on to look forward to over summer. Being at the start of my final year, knowing it would be my last Christmas Cup as a member, was quite an important moment in squeezing the best out of the time I had left at the club. The day, and night, was incredible, and set the perfect stage for a historic season.

What would you encourage new members to get involved with at university?

Funnily enough, I'm on the train back from the Great North Run sat next to someone about to join Notts - my one piece of advice to them was to play sport. Whether it be for a BUCS team, or play IMS sport once or twice a month. The mates and memories that you make is what you will remember about your time at university, and the sporting community is the most powerful one in which you can do that.

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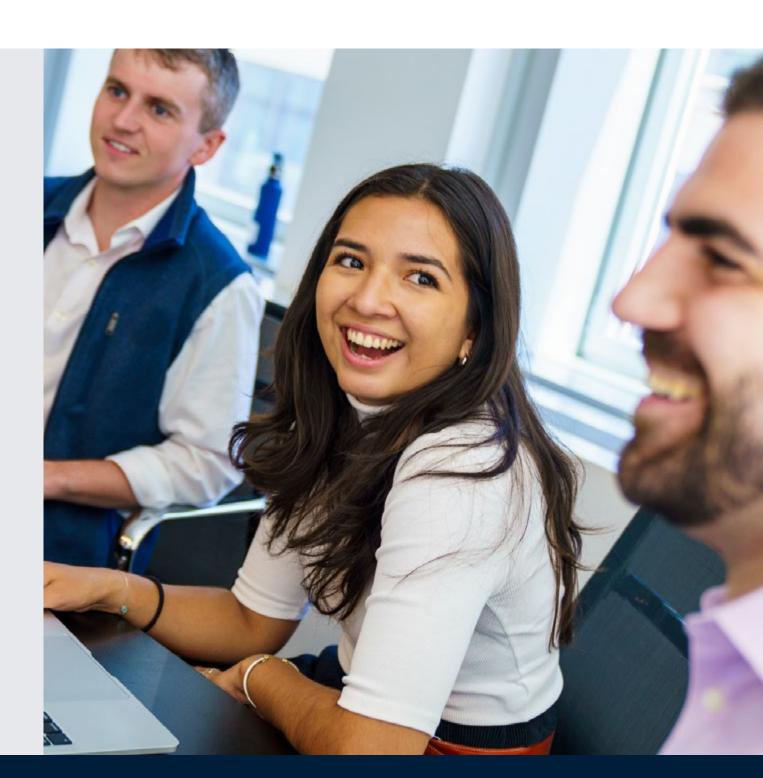
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Why partner with the University of Nottingham Hockey Club?

The University of Nottingham recently won the Sports University of the Year in The Times and The Sunday Times Good University Guide 2024. UoN is also currently the 2nd most targeted university by employers in the UK.

As a university sports club, we offer the rare benefit of vast recruitment opportunities from one of the best Russell Group universities in the country. With access to our 300+members, plus through word-of-mouth to non-members, we provide a gateway to many University of Nottingham students. The benefit of a sports club is not just the powerful relationships it creates but also the quality of personnel, as playing high-level sports at UoN has been proven to increase academic attainment.

We offer a wide variety of exposure opportunities through either; digital advertisement via Match-day Programmes, social media, live-streaming or physical advertisement via venue branding, kit sponsorship and event sponsorship. We can tailor a package to suit your needs.

For more information on sponsorshp and commercial opportunities please get touch via hockey-mens@uonsu.com or hockey-ladies@uonsu.com.

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MEN'S FIXTURES

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Nottingham Hockey Centre Saturday 16th September 2023, 4.30pm





Mila Welch

Lucy **Brown**

Ella **Brown**

Eleanor Stevenson

Hannah Kilpatrick

Emma Stewart

Claire Janderwerth

Phillipa Jowett

Alex Middleton

Julie **Read**

Sienna **Dunn**

Jordan **Homann**

Claudia **Swain**

Maddie **Axford**

Maddie Long

Kea **Murray**

Holly Nixon

Jodie Collins

Eliza Wheeler

Tilly Standen McDougal

Molly Smith

Hollie Dring Richardson

Beth **Alexander**

Ellen Reid

Amy Cradden

Pippo Spawforth

Faith Joubert

Emma Uprichard

Tilly Crampsie

Mhairi **Low**

Ellie MacKenzie

Becca Malyon

Maddy Goodman

less **Dyson**

Lily Beer

Kiera Foster

Head Coach Matt Taylor

Head Coach Jamie Cachia



Nottingham Hockey Centre Saturday 16th September 2023, 6.30pm





Adam Gower

Alex Sheldon

Ben Shardlow

Dan **Hunt**

David Wood

Ed Brice

George **Baugniet**

Harry Croft-Baker

Harry **Stone**

Hugh Page

Hugh Phillips Bland

James Clark

Jamie Butler

Jose San Milan

Louis **Tipper**

Luis **Cuttle**

Luke **Holland**

Man Anderson

Ollie King

Ollie Lander

Pete Caughey

Ted **Graves**

Tim **Ehret**

Will **DiBiase**

Will **Porter**

Jake **Read**

Head Coach James Bateman

George Pinner

Andy Bull

Henry Weir

Liam Sandford

Kyle **Marshall**

Tom Carson

James Carson

Ashley Jackson

Dan **Shingles**

Elliot Messem

Sam Ward

Josh Pavis

Lee Morton

Ed Carson

Chris **Griffiths**

James **Albery**

Chris **Proctor**

James Cunningham

Matt **Brown**

James Cake

Alan Forsyth

Head Coach Ashley Jackson