



Washington Field Hockey Association

Fall 2009

Welcome Letter from WFHA President

Hello! I'd like to extend a warm welcome to those joining WFHA for the first time and to those who are returning for another season. I hope everyone enjoyed their summer and is ready for the fall season to begin. We have been working hard towards planning an eventful season as we look forward to continuing our mission of providing playing opportunities for field hockey players of all ages and skill levels. We are hopeful that as WFHA continues to grow, we can provide more opportunities for youth and move towards other tournaments and ventures outside of the Washington Metropolitan area.

The spring and summer have not stopped our members as we sent two teams this year to the annual Beach Bash tournament in Rehoboth Beach, Delaware and are currently finishing out our summer league play which has over 40 members registered. The indoor spring sessions were also a great success and we plan on holding those again in 2010.

We have a great year ahead for Club and Association. Again, thank you for your dedication to and participation in WFHA and I look forward to seeing you on the field!

Ashley N. Kizler
WFHA President

WFHA OFFICERS

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact one of the board members listed below:

President: Ashley Kizler
president@washingtonfieldhockeyassociation.org

Vice President: Julia Taylor
vicepresident@washingtonfieldhockeyassociation.org

Vice President, Club: Esther Turner
clubvp@washingtonfieldhockeyassociation.org

Second Vice President, Club: Jen Villani
clubvp@washingtonfieldhockeyassociation.org

Secretary: Rachel Nyden
secretary@washingtonfieldhockeyassociation.org

Treasurer: Bill Levey
treasurer@washingtonfieldhockeyassociation.org

2009 Membership

The Washington Field Hockey Association offers two levels of play: **CLUB** and **ASSOCIATION**.

CLUB play is more laid back and recreational. Games take place on Saturdays and players are assigned to one of four teams. Club play is for you if you desire a less competitive atmosphere or if you haven't played in a while and need to brush-up on some skills while getting back into the game. There is no attendance requirement for club, but regular attendance is definitely encouraged! There is a championship mini-tournament at the end of the season.

ASSOCIATION play allows for more playing opportunities and is played at a higher skill level. Nearly **ALL** players at this level have college or extensive competitive tournament experience! **Association is not for the new or less experienced player.** The association team represents the WFHA at Southeast Field Hockey Association (SEFHA) events. We typically field two teams at these events and there are team selections early in the season. Practice takes place on Sundays and attendance is strongly suggested. There are three league playdays during the season, ending with the Southeast Tournament in November.



YOU CANNOT PLAY UNTIL:
1) YOU HAVE PAID YOUR DUES
2) YOU HAVE JOINED USFHA

**THERE WILL BE
 NO EXCEPTIONS
 TO THESE REQUIREMENTS!**

	NEW	RETURNING
CLUB	\$65	\$50
ASSOC	\$70*	\$50 or \$70**

You can join USFHA by visiting
<http://www.usfieldhockey.org>.

Membership is \$50, is good for one year, and is required for all WFHA events.

*New association team players must purchase a uniform, which costs \$50. But, it can be paid anytime before the first playday.

**Returning association team players have the option of paying \$20 for a club piney (includes shipping).

Information on our finances is available from our Treasurer, and/or the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Affairs.

The first day of:

CLUB is Saturday, September 12 at The Academy of Holy Cross at 9:30 a.m.
 Click [here](#) for directions.

ASSOCIATION is Sunday, August 30 at the Marine Barracks at 3:00 p.m.
 Click [here](#) for directions.

General News & Announcements

WFHA Hotline

The hotline number is: **703-642-WFHA (9342)**. It serves as our inclement weather line and provides other information about our league.

WFHA Gear

Once again, we will be selling all kinds of great gear (sweats, shirts, shorts, etc.) There's a form attached to place your order.

WFHA Website

We have launched a new website and blog.

- washingtonfieldhockeyassociation.org
- wfha.blogspot.com

Annual General Meeting (AGM)

This year's AGM will be after club play on **November 7**. Please make every effort to attend. This is an opportunity to discuss issues and make changes for next year. This is also when we hold our elections and make changes to our bylaws.

Club News & Announcements

Officiating at Club

Individuals who sign up to officiate at club will receive a monetary credit that can be used towards future registration fees. This credit can be applied to any season of WFHA play. You will be able to earn \$5/game (\$10/club session). Although we will make every attempt to accommodate your request, we cannot guarantee the games you sign up for will be available. The sign up form is included at the end of this newsletter. In the case that officials are not available for a game, you must call your own fouls.

New Rules

There will be two new rules that we will be following this season, at both club and association. The first is a self start (watch video for further explanation). The second is that hits directly into the circle are not allowed within the 25 yard line.

- http://www.usafieldhockey.us/New_Rules_USAFH/New_Rules.html
- <http://www.usfieldhockey.com/rules/newfreehitQA.html>

2009 Changes For Club

Feedback from last season was mostly positive, so there are no major changes this year.

Teams

Teams will be mixed up this year. If there are people you'd like to continue playing with, please list their names on your registration form.

Sportsmanship

Team captains will also be asked to take a more active role in setting a tone of fair play on their team and addressing specific problems as they arise.

Association News & Announcements

2009 Changes For Association

There were several changes made to team formation in response to the discussion that took place during the 2008 AGM.

Practice

All Association players – whether on the Washington 1 or Washington 2 team – are strongly encouraged to attend practice. If you can not attend practices, you should strongly consider playing at the club level. Also, players are reminded that the practice time is the time we're *expected to start playing*; not the time they are expected to arrive.



Selections

Selections will be done by the Selections Committee, which consists of the following members:

However, to remain on the “Washington 1” team for the Southeast Tournament, players must attend 67% of the practices and also fulfill one of the following requirements: a) officiate a club event, b) serve on the WFHA or SEFHA Board or chair a WFHA or SEFHA Committee, c) be a WFHA or SEFHA Honorary Member, d) participate in a youth clinic.



Officiating at Club

One of the easiest ways to satisfy your Washington 1 “service” requirement is to officiate *a single day* at club. And, having a good official really improves the club experience, so please consider this option.

Uniforms & Pinneys

We purchased new uniforms last year, but they are in a similar style to the previous uniform, so returning players should not feel obligated to purchase a new uniform. Also, since club has switched to pinneys, new association players are strongly encouraged to bring their pinney to practice. Returning members who would like a pinney can purchase one for \$20.

Organization News & Announcements

Elections

This year, we will need to elect a new Vice President and Secretary. Many thanks to Julia Taylor and Rachel Nyden for all their hard work! If you are interested in serving in either of these positions, please contact Ashley Kizler.

Thanks to our Committee Chairs!

Jess Hebel (Youth), Jen Villani (Officiating), Susan Martin (Off-Season), Bruce Foster (Summer), Bill Levey & Jane Degrenier (Indoor), Rebecca Mabie (Communications) and Meghan McMahon/Amanda Mulhern (Social). We also have one vacancy: Coaching. If you are interested in serving in this position, please contact a board member.

2009 Tentative Fall Schedule

All dates and times are subject to change. Members will be notified of any changes.

August		
30	First day of Association Practice	Marine Barracks, 3:00 — 5:00 p.m.
September		
5-6	Labor Day Weekend	No Hockey
12	First Day of Club	Holy Cross, 9:30 a.m. — 12:00 p.m.
13	Association Practice	Episcopal High School, 2:00 — 4:00 p.m.
19	Club	Holy Cross, 10:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.
20	Association Baltimore Playday	Roland Park County School, 8:30 a.m. — 12:00p.m.
26	Club	Holy Cross, 10:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.
27	Association Practice	Episcopal High School, 2:00 — 4:00 p.m.
October		
3	Club	Holy Cross, 10:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.
4	Association Washington Playday	Time TBD
10	Club	Holy Cross, 10:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.
11	Association Practice	Marine Barracks
17	Club	Holy Cross, 10:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.
18	Association Practice	Episcopal High School, 2:00 — 4:00 p.m.
24	Club Association Tidewater Playday	Holy Cross, 10:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.
25	Association Practice	Episcopal High School, 9:00 — 11:00 a.m.
31	Club	Holy Cross, 10:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.
November		
1	Association Practice	Marine Barracks
7	Club WFHA Annual General Meeting	Holy Cross, 10:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.
8	Association Practice	Episcopal High School, 2:00 — 4:00 p.m.
14	Club Southeast Tournament at Maryland Polo Fields	Holy Cross, 10:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.
21	Club Championship	Holy Cross, 10:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.

SECTION 4: COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENT

We count on our members to keep our organization running smoothly. To that end and per our 2004 Annual General Meeting, each member of the WFHA must be a member of a committee.

For more information on our committees, please visit our website. Here is a list of the committees and their chairperson:

- Youth Chair: Jess Hebel
- Indoor Play Chairs: Bill Levey and Jane Salyer
- Officiating Chair: Jen Villani
- Coaching Chair: Vacant
- Summer Play Chair: Bruce Foster
- Communications Chair: Rebecca Mabie
- Social Chair: Meghan McMahan and Amanda Mulhern
- Off-Season Tournaments Chair: Susan Martin
- Selections Chair: Rachel Nyden

Please indicate your 1st and 2nd choice for a committee assignment. You **MUST** complete this section or your registration will be considered incomplete.

1st choice committee:		2nd choice committee:	
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SECTION 5: CLUB TEAM PLACEMENT

New players , tell us about your field hockey experience:	
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(high school, college, which college, how long has it been since you've played.)

Returning players, in order to balance out teams and give players an opportunity to play with other people, we are switching up the team rosters this year.

All players , if there is someone (or a group of people) you would like to play with, please give us their names and we will do our best to pair you with them:	
1.	3.
2.	4.

Are you willing to be the captain of your team? Captains send weekly emails to their teams with announcements. They are also responsible for maintaining good sportsmanship on their team.	YES	NO
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SECTION 6: CLUB OFFICIATING

Please list the dates you would like to officiate. We can not guarantee you will be able to officiate on those days. You will receive a confirmation email with the assigned dates.

1.	3.
2.	4.

Thank you for registering early! We look forward to seeing you all in a couple of weeks!

Please feel free to contact the WFHA Board with any questions, ideas, concerns you have now or throughout the season!
Your thoughts and input are what makes this organization so special!