# Thames Valley Minis

In 2017/18 a number of clubs in Berkshire and on its borders will be hosting monthly tournaments at Under 8, Under 10 and Under 12 level. These are designed to support the development of young players by allowing them to put into practice the skills they learn on the training ground, and have fun playing against other local clubs. This is the 11th season of the Thames Valley Minis.

Whilst we appreciate that there is an ever increasing number of options for festivals and matches for U12’s we believe that TVM offer a unique opportunity for many of the new member of the hockey family. We have done our best to avoid conflicts but it is impossible to avoid any. We leave it up to the discretion of the individual clubs and coaches to make sure that individuals to not “overplay”.

These tournaments are by invitation only. For further details please contact Nick Hooper at Reading HC (see *Contacts*).

## Dates and venues

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **2017/18** | **U8 Young** | **U8Older** | **U10 B Mixed** | **U10 A Mixed** | **U10 Boys** | **U10 Girls** | **U12 BMixed** | **U12 Girls** | **U12Boys** |
| **8 Oct** | Henley | South Berks | Newbury & Thatcham  | Phoenix & Ranelagh | Marlow | Reading | Slough | M’head | Sonning  |
| **5 Nov** | Phoenix & Ranelagh | Sonning | Henley | South Berks  | M’head | Slough  | Newbury & Thatcham | Marlow | Reading |
| **3 Dec** | Slough | M’head | South Berks | Newbury & Thatcham | Sonning | Marlow | Phoenix & Ranelagh | Reading | Henley |
| **4 Feb** | South Berks | Slough | High Wycombe | M’head | Reading | Henley | Sonning | Newbury & Thatcham | Marlow |
| **4 Mar** | Marlow | Reading | Phoenix & Ranelagh | High Wycombe  | Slough | Sonning  | M’head  | Henley | South Berks |

## Contacts

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Club** | **Contact** | **e-mail** | **Telephone** |
| **Henley** |  |  |  |
|  Mini Manger | Trish Heggie         | barnardheggie@gmail.com | 07867 506526 |
|  U12 | Dan Herbert | danherbert321@gmail.com | 07778 587384 |
|  U10 | Dave Bowyer | david\_bowyer@btinternet.com |  |
|  U8 | James Baker | james.baker@accenture.com  |  |
| **High Wycombe (U10)** | Graeme Gardner | graemegardner@yahoo.co.uk |  |
| **Maidenhead** |  |  |  |
|  U8 | Rod Gauld | rodgauld@sky.com |  |
|  U10 | Charlotte Lomas | charlotteelomas25@gmail.com | 07860 344128 |
|  U12 Boys | Anne-Marie Moore   | [grubby1974@hotmail.co.uk](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5Cnhooper%5CPrivate%20NHO%5CNH%5Chockey%5Cgrubby1974%40hotmail.co.uk) |  |
|  | Duncan Sturdy  | duncan.sturdy@gmail.com |  |
|  U12 Girls | Jim Thompson | jamesthompson\_uk@yahoo.com | 07748 062783 |
| **Marlow** |  |  |  |
|  Head of Minis | Megan Ormond | ormondmegan@yahoo.com | 07769297347 |
|  U10 | Annie Corbett | corbettannie@ymail.com  | 07971 559861 |
|  U10 | Gareth Baber | Gareth.Baber@mbnl.co.uk |  |
|  U8 Older | Emma Pittaway | ewpittaway@gmail.com |  |
|  U8 Younger | Megan Ormond | ormondmegan@yahoo.com | 07769297347 |
| **Newbury & Thatcham** | Agnes Carlisle | agnes@falklandcc.co.uk | 07775 504421 |
| **Phoenix & Ranelagh** | Hugh Hamilton | Hugh.Hamilton@matthey.com  |  |
|   | Ady Brown | curlyady@gmail.com  |  |
| **Reading** |  |  |  |
|  Colts Manager | Judith Barton | judithbarton9@btinternet.com  | 07710 019259 |
|  U12 Boys  | Stephanie Diplock | stephdiplock@hotmail.co.uk |  |
|  U12 Girls  | Mia Canton | mia\_dahlquist@hotmail.com |  |
|  U10  | Katrina Sartorius | k.sartorius@me.com |  |
|  U8  | Karen Atkinson | karensatkinson@gmail.com | 07795 801011 |
| **Slough** | Max Salvadori | max@salvadori.co.uk | 07944278666 |
|  | Nadia Amin | nadia\_amin11@hotmail.com | 07944807792 |
| **Sonning** | Chris Manning | chrismanning123@btinternet.com | 07816 213495 |
| **South Berks** |  |  |  |
|  Junior Manager | Jenny Jones | jennyc.jones0@googlemail.com | 07759 228069 |
|  Junior Committee | Jane Martin | martin\_jane@lilly.comjuniors@southberkshirehockeyclub.org.uk | 07768 235330 |
|  |  |  |  |

## Directions

### Henley HC

353 Reading Road, Henley on Thames, RG9 4HE

<http://www.henleyhockeyclub.co.uk/location/>

### Wycombe HC

Holmers Farm Way, High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire, HP12 4QA

<http://www.wycombehc.co.uk/about-us/directions/>

### Maidenhead HC

Altwood School, Altwood Road, Maidenhead, SL6 4PU

Braywick Sports Centre, Braywick Road, Maidenhead, SL6 1BN

<http://www.maidenheadhc.org.uk/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=55&Itemid=149>

### Marlow HC

Marlow Sports Club, Pound Lane, Marlow, SL7 2AH

 <http://maps.google.com/maps/place?q=pound+lane,+marlow&hl=en&cid=13123989950443285050>

### Newbury HC

Henwick Lane, Thatcham, RG18 3BN

<http://www.nt-hc.org/nthc/directions.asp>

### Phoenix & Ranelagh HC

Sportspark, Reading University Satnav: please use **RG6 6UR**

### Reading HC

Reading HC, Sonning Lane, Sonning, RG4 6ST

<http://www.readinghockeyclub.org.uk/club/directions/>

### Sonning HC

Royal County of Berkshire Sports & Social Club, Sonning Lane, Sonning RG4 6ST

<http://sonninghc.clubhouseleader.co.uk/index.php?option=com_content&view=section&layout=blog&id=6&Itemid=10>

**South Berkshire @ Wellington College**Wellington Health & Fitness Club, 110 Duke’s Ride, Crowthorne, RG45 7PT

## What to bring

Hockey stick

Shin pads

Mouthguard (recommended)

Plenty to drink

Snacks

Something warm to put on between matches

Reading Colts: please see *Club Kit*

## Tournament objectives

* Emphasis on fun and safety – winning is secondary
* Support development of players – put skills from training ground into practice
* Straightforward planning and organisation for clubs
* Logistically easy for parents
* Standard format so tournaments are easy to run
* Players graded by age and ability

## Tournament structure guidelines

* Tournaments will be held one Sunday per month and should not last longer than 2 hours and should preferably be no more than 1½ hours.
* The preferred start time is 9.30am – due to pitch availability, start times may vary from 9.00am to 11.30am.
* Clubs should enter sides to the relevant level tournament not just where is most convenient. B tournaments are fine for beginners, A ones are not. Equally experienced players should not be going to B tournaments.
* Hosts of similar level tournaments will need to be in close communication to ensure a balance of numbers across the venues.
* To maximise individual’s game time team managers can agree to play 8 a-side [max] (especially in cold conditions!)
* For mixed teams there should be a maximum of 5 boys on the pitch (4 for U6)
* GKs are welcome and can be included at any event. They are particularly welcome at the “A” events and, if needs be, can be shared around different teams to give them additional game time..
* Matches should all be 8-10 minutes (no half-time) with 1 minute changeover but is at the discretion of the individual tournaments to make sure that the kids play the maximum amount of hockey. The ideal is for kids to be playing at least every other game - teams should not be resting for more than one game at a time.
* 4-6 matches per teams.
* Normal weight balls at U12 and U10. At U8 lighter balls can be used as it makes little difference.
* No recording of results or winners.

## Tournament rules

1. Mini Hockey rules, to be interpreted sympathetically according to the age and ability of teams.
2. Usually 7-a-side, but 8-a-side with prior agreement of both coaches. Reducing to 6-a-side is at the sole discretion of the team with 7 players. 8-a-side is not discouraged, particularly in cold weather and at B tournaments, to keep everyone involved. U8 should be 6 a side.
3. Age qualification (Under8/10/12) is at 1st September in line with EH age groups for clubs.
4. Team coaches will umpire (unless host club can provide umpires).
5. If a circle is not marked out, cones will be laid on the side lines 10 yards from goal line to mark a rectangular scoring area.
6. The use of goalkeepers is encouraged, particularly at U12, but it remains non-compulsory. Goalkeepers are usually more than happy to guest for other clubs between their own games.
7. Short corners will be awarded in U12 and U10 A level matches only if the defending team has a goalkeeper. If there is no goalkeeper, then an indirect free hit from 10 yards out in line with where the offence was committed.
8. If there is a goalkeeper but no D is marked, an imaginary one works fine, to encourage teams to learn the skills and routines needed.
9. If a team leads by 3 goals one of its players will be retired. The full team may be restored if the scores are levelled (not if the trailing team scores once).

## Organisation

* Reading HC website will be used to post dates, times, venues and host club organisers. <http://www.readinghockeyclub.org.uk/ng/minis>
* Host clubs may invite other sides to join their tournaments (space allowing and not to the detriment of regular participants).
* Hosts need to know well in advance how many teams are coming from each club. A minimum of one week’s notice is needed and it is not fair to call a few days before a tournament to change the number of teams (up or down). “We’re not sure how many teams we are bringing” is never an option.
* Host clubs publish match schedule 5 days in advance.
* The two clubs hosting B tournaments on the same date should work together to ensure roughly even numbers at each venue. “We don’t want to travel to Newbury” is not an option.
* The relevant age group should be specified in the header of all e-mail about tournaments.
* Photography rules will be the responsibility of the host club. The guideline is that:
* *The taking of photography and video by parents is allowed for personal use*
* *The publication of images is not allowed without the written consent of every Colt (or parent/guardian if U18) in the image.*
* *Images should be framed to be within the context of the sporting event*
* *Any published images (see point 2) must not contain information allowing for the identification of the people, ie tagging, address, location etc..*
* *If you post images on the any website or social media sites, of anyone other than your own child, then written consent is required (see point 2).*
* *If you are at all unsure, do not post the image*
* It is the responsibility of the host club to ensure that a qualified first-aider is present. This may be from the club’s own membership or from a visiting club but it is up to the host club to check who is coming.
* All costs associated with hosting tournaments, such as pitch hire, are the responsibility of the host club.
* Clubs sending one coach for three or four teams causes problems, for example teams not being ready for games to start or no-one quite sure who should be on the pitch or in what colour shirts. Clubs should try to appoint enthusiastic parents to “manage” each team, hockey experience not required.
* In the event of ice or snow on the morning of a tournament, while the host will make every effort to contact visiting clubs, it is the responsibility of the visiting clubs to contact the host to find out whether or not the tournament will go ahead. If in doubt please assume a tournament is going ahead.