

YORKSHIRE & NORTH EAST HOCKEY

2026/2027 PRE-SEASON NEWSLETTER



A word from the Chair

Welcome to the new season!

I hope this newsletter finds everyone well and looking forward to enjoying the hockey season ahead in the Yorkshire & North East (YNE) Area, whatever your level of participation and involvement. To some extent, I am not sure one season ever ends and a new one begins, as hockey now seems to take place continuously over all 12 months of a year, notably the increased Masters activity.

However, a new YNE season brings a few changes following the YNE AGM back in July.

After 2 years in the role, Peter Frost stepped down as the Chair of the Board of Directors but has agreed to remain on the Board where his knowledge and experience can continue to benefit the oversight of hockey in our Area. On behalf of all the Board I would like to thank Peter for his valuable contribution as Chair, he will be a difficult act to follow. Additionally, after 5 years as a Board Director (with 4 years as our Governance Director), Patrick Hunt has stepped down from the Board and we wish him well and thank him for his valuable contribution.

Following the AGM, the elected Directors met and I agreed to take on the Chair's role for the year ahead. I have been the Operations Director for YNE for the last 5 years and am looking forward to the new role and continuing to lead the governance and management of hockey in our Area. This does leave a vacant role as our Operations Director and if this is something you might be interested in, please get in touch.

For those of you that don't know me, I am about to embark on my 50th year of hockey involvement, all of which has been in the YNE Area. My roots are in the "NE" part of YNE starting out as an 11 year old playing senior hockey for Redcar, through to 3 years playing at Sheffield University, and then 40 years in the "Y" part of YNE as a member of Adel, as a player, junior coach, umpire, chair and supporter as both of my children play at Adel too. Away from the hockey pitch, I have spent my working life in the pensions and investment industry in Leeds. I hope to see as many clubs as I can over the coming season, and to meet as many people as possible involved in YNE hockey.

As well as changes to the Board, we also say goodbye to a couple of long serving members of the Adult League Management Committee and thank Peter Richardson and Chris Randall for their contribution not just under YNE but also with Yorkshire Hockey beforehand.

Finally, I would like to congratulate Bev Deakin on her election to Vice President of England Hockey at the EH AGM earlier this year. As most of you will know, Bev is a previous Chair of YNE and YHA and has held many additional roles throughout the sport of hockey. Its great to have people from our Area involved at this level.

Whatever your role in YNE hockey, I wish you well for the season ahead and hope you all have as much continued enjoyment from our sport as I have experienced over the last 50 years. The sport relies heavily on volunteers giving up their time and clubs and YNE would all benefit from more people offering their time and support. If you are not already volunteering in any capacity and feel you have the time and the skills to do so, then I would encourage you to get involved now!

Have a great season!

Mark Powley
Chair, YNE Hockey

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The YNE 2026/2027 Board

Chair – Mark Powley
Vice Chair – Spencer Fearn
Finance Director - Robert Gordon
Governance Director - Lorraine Wood
Co-Opted Director – Peter Frost

The YNE 2026/2027 Management Committee

Adult League and Competition Chair - Timothy Stafford
Junior Competition Chair - Maggie Coombe
Officiating Chair - Lee Cooper
Masters Chair - Gordy Gray
Area Disciplinary Administrator - Andrew Nix

YNE Hockey Vacancies

Operations Director - YNE Hockey Board [Vacancies](#) | [Yorkshire & North East Hockey](#)

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