

Avoca Men's AGM Summary 2014-15.

Before I dive into the details of the season I would like to take a moment and give a big thank you to all of the Coaches and Volunteers. Your efforts allow the players to just get on and enjoy the game.

- Carl Breden – manages the registrations with the minimal of fuss – not easy considering the response you get at times from players!!
- Cara Kelehan – organising & juggling all of the clubs fixtures
- The Coaches – Mark & Stephen Cullen. All I can say is a huge thanks from the club for your efforts during pre-season and the season.
- All of our “volunteer” umpires – for ALL of you who have blown a whistle during the season – Thanks. This is the hardest job on the pitch but the most important and without the constant volunteers

Summary

How do you sum up this season? I think it would have to be “Consistently inconsistent!” but overall a successful season. All teams maintained their status in their respective leagues.

Mens 1's

- Finished 10th in Leinster Division 1
- League Results were – played 18 – Won 2, Lost 16. Goals for 29, Goal against 79
- This was a tough season with the late promotion to the top tier. The highlight had to be the performance the team put in against Rathgar at Newpark. A performance of genuine pace, power coupled with some great finishing that led to a 7-1 win. There was also the appearance in the league of the Father Son combo that provided a brick wall in defence – it took some supreme skill to get passed the Peter & Ziggy Agnew combo! Congratulations to Peter who has now played Div 1 hockey in 5 different decades

Mens 2's

- Finished 7th in Leinster Division 4
- League results were – Played 18, Won 5, Drew 6, Lost 7. Goals for 38, Goals against 38.
- This proved to be a fairly frustrating season. When the team played to their ability they were a table topping team. This showed in the performance away to YMCA 3rds, who were the runaway league winners – where the result was a draw. But Avoca played really strong positive hockey that pushed YMCA to the limit. Having a more consistent line up would probably go a long way to help resolve the consistency issues.

Mens 3's

- Finished 5th in Leinster Division 6
- League results were – Played 18, Won 9, Drew 3, Lost 6. Goals for 38, goals against 31.
- This was a successful season following the last minute promotion to Division 6. I have to say a thanks to Al Robinson who again did an incredible job in organising and captaining this squad. The team just ran out of legs at the end of the season that saw them narrowly miss out on promotion. It was again great to see the wise older heads like Ian Wilkie guiding the

younger generation! It's always a pleasure to watch these boys enjoy the game for what it really is!

Men's Vets

Had another season as the nomadic squad going from ground to ground each week. Hopefully we will see some of these matches now being played down at Sion Hill – a Home ground at last.... Huge thanks go out to Tom for organising the team again this year.

Awards

Men's Player of the Year – Ziggy Agnew

U21 Player of the year- Andrew Ramsey

Schoolboy of the Year – Elliot Goode

2nds Player of the Year – Marcus Pearson

3rds Player of the Year – Ben Mayberry

I have to say thank you again – this time to Caroline Daly the wonderful Ladies Captain. She has made my job so much easier reminding me of what I should actually be doing and just generally helping me out. Thanks!!

Just to close of and I would like to say what an honour it has been to be the Men's Club Captain and I just hope that I have left the Men's section in a better state. It has been such a privilege to be a part of this fantastic hockey club. The club is going through some changes at the moment as it continues to grow. The second pitch has to be a high light and I hope that we will see a 4th Men's team running out next season.