

Ice Hockey Case Study



THE LONDON CAPITALS FLOORBALL TEAM – STREATHAM, LONDON



Please summarise your club

- *Number of teams: Streatham Youth Ice Hockey Club; We have these 7 teams: Learn to Play, U9, U11, U13A, U13B, U15 & U18.*
- *Age ranges of players in each team: 4 to 18*
- *Experience levels (beginners, development, elite, professional): all levels*
- *Venue, county of the UK: Streatham Ice Leisure Center*
- *Roughly how far afield do you draw players from: whole of London & its surrounding area*

Why did you set up a floorball team?

Please describe the benefits to your players and to your club.

It is fun. Floorball gives us a positive alternative to our ice hockey programme. It allows us to slow the pace down and properly explain the right strategies & team plays off ice. It enhances stick handling skills and teamwork. On the ice, some children have a higher level of skating skills and therefore will lead to them having a massive advantage; however, in floorball, all the children will be forced to harbour all other necessary skills in ice hockey, becoming less dependent on their skating. This will mean that all children will improve due to a more equal learning environment.

Was it related to cost, time of day training, enhancing stick skills, fitness?

The rent of a sport hall is significantly cheaper and more available than when renting the ice.

Similar skills are learnt through Floorball practices, especially passing, shooting, player positioning & team plays.

Recruiting Players

Have the floorball sessions started to attract new players to your club e.g. people who already skate, people who want to learn to skate, people who don't yet want to skate but just want to play floorball?

Not at the moment, but continuous Floorball sessions will undoubtedly attract more children.

Do you think your IHC can use floorball to help promote the club locally?

Do you run floorball taster sessions in schools, colleges, cub or scout groups locally to promote your club? Would the publicity of participating in floorball leagues or the National Youth Floorball Cup help promote your club?

That might be our next step. We will be happy to participate in floorball leagues and National Cups.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Streatham Youth IHC www.syihc.co.uk



Video, stick skills for ice hockey players

www.youtube.com/watch?v=6V6XB0KmYkk

UK Floorball Federation web: www.ukfloorball.org Facebook www.facebook.com/ukfloorball/

What is Floorball?

Floorball is based on ice hockey but is played in a gym, without physical contact. It's played officially by several million people in 64 countries (May 2017 figure) so the name is translated many times, Innebandy in Sweden, Salibandy in Finland, etc. and it has just been registered as a sport in the UK and in 2011 was officially recognised as an Olympic sport. It is hoped that it will enter the summer Olympics in 2024.

It's a fast sport but as the ball only weighs 23 grammes (or less than an ounce) and 72mm in diameter, it is a very different experience from Field Hockey or Cricket. The gym is smaller than a field hockey pitch so there's less running as well.

The rules are deliberately kept simple, e.g. no offside rule.

So, it's just skill and speed that separate the great from the good.