

Avon Division 2 Women's Team

This team consists of athletes of a wide range of ages from 17 years through to the more experienced athletes in and around 40, with a brood of children. The season started with a large squad and a few new players to add to the mix which was timely with the departure of a few stalwarts from last season.

This team finished 5th in the competition – maybe we were a bit unlucky with a couple of the results, but with the change of players from last season, I thought this placing was a fair indication. Great team to work with and a couple of the youngsters will be pushing for places in the CPL team next season.

Rebecca Nind and Caitlin Campbell, both from out of town and studying in Christchurch, were talented, strong and steady players. Jess Wilson and Helen Keast came to us from other clubs and represented Canterbury at Masters level and proved that you can certainly teach old dog new tricks (!!). Jess also joined our committee amongst her other commitments and Helen after having a few seasons off, improved continually throughout the season. Premi Gill had also had a couple of seasons off since school but had an unlucky season cut short with a foot injury. Sarah Beukenholdt is our youngest member who received our 'Most Improved' player for the season and will just continue to improve with confidence. Adrienne Edwards returned after the birth of her first child and didn't miss a beat as did Sheila Barnett part way through the season. It was great to have them back. I owe a great debt to our goalie Nick McMillan who stepped into our team halfway through the year after our original goalie had to leave because of personal reasons. Always giving her best and nothing being a problem, she gave her all during the games even if it meant sitting the rest of the day at Accident and Emergency! Louise Moran, Ronnie Hay, Emma Burrell, Janelle McKellow, Jan McDonald and our 'Player of the Year' Teresa Kearns, were steady, reliable and great team players who were so consistent through the season. Big thanks to Tanyia Legge who continues to work hard on and off the field as President of Avon Hockey. Would also like to wish Louise Moran and Sheila Barnett all the best as they move on with their careers in the medical field. Hopefully we might see them back some day in the future.

Jill Hansen