

05
SEASON
2023

NEWSLETTER

SEASON WRAP UP 2023



SENIOR WOMEN WINNERS WAKATIPU

SAVE THE DATE!
Season Debrief Meeting scheduled for 7 pm on Tuesday, October 17th, in Cromwell - venue to be decided. You're also welcome to join us from 5.30 pm for a farewell drink with Berber.

TOPICS

FAREWELL BERBER

JOB OPPORTUNITY AND BOARD MEMBERS CALL

COMPETITION

HOCKEY ACTIVATIONS

FUNKEY HOCKEY

DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

UMPIRE/COACH COURSE AND NEW PATHWAY

VOLUNTEERS OF THE MONTH

NUMBERS THIS SEASON

PREVIEW NEXT SEASON

COHA PARTICIPANT SURVEY 2023



FAREWELL AND THANK YOU FROM BERBER

As the hockey season comes to a close, so does my work/holiday visa in New Zealand. I have had an incredible time during my job at Central Otago Hockey, full of valuable lessons, the launch of exciting initiatives and, of course, meeting some wonderful people!

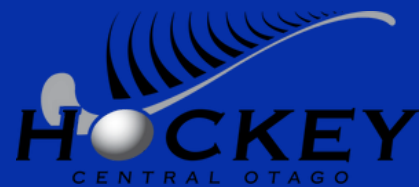
Your hockey community is truly something to be proud of. Through my school visits, the Funkey Hockey program, holiday activities, and development programs, I hope to have contributed to the growth of hockey in the region.

I would like to thank the board for their incredible hard work and for giving me this opportunity. I would also like to thank the clubs, schools, players and parents for all their enthusiasm during this season! In my last newsletter we look back on the season and we share plans for the upcoming season.

I wish you all the success in the future! Perhaps our paths will cross again someday, but for now, my adventure takes me to Canada. I would say, keep playing hockey, enjoy your amazing country and all the best.

Warmest regards, Berber Swart

JOIN CENTRAL OTAGO HOCKEY!



COHA is looking for:

BOARD MEMBERS

Are you interested in making an impact in our hockey community? Do you want to further develop hockey in Central Otago together with the board members? Then this is your change! There is no board without board members. COHA is looking for a board member who can help where needed! Do you want to contribute to a positive hockey experience for players in Central Otago? Then COHA is looking for you! Your tasks can be discussed with the board.

The position as a board member is for a 3 year term. It's a great opportunity to voice your opinion and help in the development of Central Otago Hockey. There will be meetings every month/6 weeks and this will be in person or online.



COMMUNITY MANAGER- 30 HOURS

Do you know of someone looking for a job with flexible hours and join us in delivering a great hockey experience in Central Otago?

You will be responsible for the planning, implementation, management and delivery of programmes designed to develop and promote hockey in our community with the aim to increase the level of capability and fundamental skills for our community players, coaches, umpires and volunteers.

These programmes will include school programmes, various age group development programmes, coaching and umpiring courses, development for community volunteers. These can either be delivered by the successful applicant or they can contract appropriate people to take the courses. There may be some weekend and evening work required with this position. As a Development Officer you will work with and be supported by the other development officers within the Southern Associations with both the local and regional programmes.



ADMINISTRATION MANAGER - 10 HOURS

You will be responsible for all operations and administration tasks. This includes but is not limited to Board secretary roles, working with the development manager to advertise upcoming events to our hockey community and assist with bookings, working with the competitions manager to communicate competition information, ensuring the website and player handbooks up to date.

Contact Sally/Craig for more information about the roles: Admin@coha.org.nz

COMPETITION INFORMATION



As we close the chapter on the 2023 Hockey Season, we reflect on a season filled with remarkable achievements.

Congratulations to Cromwell Men and Wakatipu Women for their outstanding hockey performances this season!



Here are the results for our senior divisions:

Senior Men:

- Winners: Cromwell
- Runner-up: Wakatipu
- Challenge Trophy: Wakatipu

Senior Women:

- Winners: Wakatipu
- Runners-up: Alexandra
- Challenge Cup: Wakatipu

It's not just the premier grade that showcased great hockey this season; our high school grade also demonstrated some fantastic hockey. Congratulations to the following teams:

Senior Reserve Div 1:

- Winners: Upper Clutha 1st XI
- Runner-up: Wakatipu 1st XI
- Challenge Cup: Upper Clutha 1st XI

Senior Reserve Div 2:

- Winners: Maniototo Area School
- Runner-up: Wakatipu 2nd XI"



Last but not least, congratulations to our senior umpires:

- Men: Thomas Paul
- Women: Bridget Airy
- Up and Coming: Flynn Wilson

A big thanks to the clubs, players, umpires, coaches, supporters, sponsors, and everyone involved for a fantastic competition.

HOCKEY ACTIVATIONS

Last season Central Otago gave a boost to the activation of new hockey players. This is done through school visits, holiday programs and the funkey hockey program.

SCHOOL VISITS: Almost all schools in Central Otago have been visited with hockey lessons. We are very grateful to the schools for this opportunity as it has led to the participation of many new hockey players in the the Funkey Hockey Program.

HOLIDAY PROGRAMS: During the holidays, we provided hockey sessions for players and non-players. With Sporting Edge, a kick-start hockey day, and a Funkey Hockey session. We planned a Joe Morrison clinic, but it was canceled due to low participation. We'd like to know your preferences for hockey activities next season!

FUNKEY HOCKEY

This season, we introduced Funkey Hockey for the first time. Based on the Dutch Hockey Association's program called Funkey, we created our own Funkey Hockey program to spark enthusiasm for hockey among new players. This program was a success, held in Wanaka, Queenstown, Cromwell, and Alexandra, with over the 350 participants.

This comment from a parent captures the program perfectly:

"My two kids (year 2 and year 4) have both really enjoyed their first experience of hockey. It's been a great format to introduce kids to hockey with the different stations and different games each week - it's kept things exciting and fun. Thanks also for the energy that all of the coaches, college students, and parent helpers have brought each week; it's definitely contributed to the enthusiasm of my kids. Great job! Thanks so much! - Liz H."

Next season, we plan to offer it at the beginning of the season as well! Stay tuned for more information.



WANAKA Y3-8



WANAKA Y1-2



CROMWELL Y1-8



ALEXANDRA Y1-8



QUEENSTOWN Y5-8



QUEENSTOWN Y1-4

DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

SENIOR MEN



At the beginning of the season, our Senior Men players traveled to the Ian Smith tournament. They played good hockey and can look back on an great tournament. Well done everyone:

Brad Cosgrove, Curtis Luff, Damon Ross, Dean Hawley, James Adams, James Leech, Jason Lennon, Jono Young, Martin Bungard, Nick Browett, Oliver Jolly, Ross Anderson, Sam Fitzgerald, Sam Pimm, Sean Brunton, Thomas Paul.

U18 GIRLS

The U18 girls traveled to Auckland this year. Not only did they play fantastic hockey, but they also had an amazing time! Thanks to Coach Nikki and Managers Sharyn and Beth.

Ruby Ives, Abbey Ragg, Ariana Webb, Billie Willson, Sam Fookes, Abby Fookes, Izzy Miscisco, Claudia Park, Niamh May, Kass Pont, Amy Benson, Jessica Colman, Heidi Clarkson, Milla Druce.



Congratulations, players!

U18 BOYS



The U18 boys had their tournament in Dunedin. This season has been a campaign with its share of ups and downs, but they've showed great hockey and can look back on some amazing performances. Well done, players! Thanks to coaches Sam, Gareth, and Manager Tina.

Will Anderson, Matt Botting, Pete Davis, Angus Drinnan, Josh Ede, Kayleb Hancock, Cohen Hoskins, Samuel Robertson-Muir, Pearce Summerfield, Hudson Weathington, Alex Campbell, Flynn Wilson, Hamish Leyser, Hayden Becker

U15 BOYS



The U15 boys played in Christchurch and were fortunate to be coached by international player Joe Morrison. It was an incredible experience, and the boys performed really well! Great effort players!

Austin Armstrong, Tāne Beazley, Eli Knights, Liam Major, Rossco Rowley, Harper Rule, Riley Spittle, Eddie Taylor, Mason Broome, Ryan Crossan, Harper Donnelly, Jake Mullaly, Angus Ives, Hugh Ragg, Alex Scott.

Thanks to coach Joe and managers Sally and Bridget.

U15 GIRLS

The U15 girls also played in Christchurch. They had a fantastic experience, played exceptionally well, and had a great time together. Well done, girls!

Abbie Rooney, Amelia Smith, Annie Love, Avie Morgan, Brooke Webb, Chelsea Wood, Eve Sinnamon, Hannah Spittle, Jada Cooney-O'Neill, Katie Battrick, Mikayla Botting, Sarah Dougherty, Phoebe Harrex, Milla Leemborg, Sophie Meehan.

Thanks to coach Kelly and Manager Renee.



U13

We also ran an exciting U13 program this year with 88 participants. After five training sessions at different locations, they had a mini-tournament in Cromwell and concluded the program with a fun tournament in Invercargill. Well done, players!!

A big thank you to our coaches: Rachel Stanton, Cate Herlihy, Shaun Tipson, Dayna Paterson, Charlotte Rawcliffe, Allannah McRae, Deirdre Lithgow, Craig Paterson, Deidre Perkins, Bridgette Winter, Stacey Weir, Jeremy Jenkins. Your dedication and support were invaluable, and we greatly appreciate it.



UMPIRE DEVELOPMENT U15



This year, we had the privilege of sending two umpires to the U15 tournament. Flynn Wilson and Ariana Webb umpired for COHA during this tournament.

It was not only a fantastic opportunity for them to further develop their umpiring skills but also an incredible experience. They stayed with other umpires, had meetings about umpiring, and received feedback after officiating matches. In short, a super nice and educational experience!

We are proud of Flynn and Ariana and hope they continue to advance their umpire skills in the upcoming season. Well done, both!

We also attempted to offer an umpire workshop this season, thanks to Jono and Flynn. It was a starting point, and we are currently working on expanding it. Next season, we would like to schedule this at the beginning of the season and turn it into a real course.



UMPIRE DEVELOPMENT U13

We also had the four young umpires for the U13 festival: Brooke, Olivia, Sophie, and Ethan.

We are thankful to them and hope they enjoyed the experience.

Thank you very much!

These umpire opportunities are fantastic chances to further develop your umpiring skills.

If you're interested in any of these options for the next season, please let COHA know-

development@coha.org.nz



NEW PATHWAYS FOR NEXT SEASON

We're developing a coaching pathway with various courses for coaches in Central Otago for next season. We hope to be able to offer the following next season:

1. Fun/Mini stick course at the start of the season at different locations. COHA Course
2. An Introductory Players Programme for coaches working with youth and adult players. OHA Course/HNZ Course
3. A Foundation Players Programme for more experienced coaches. OHA Course/HNZ Course.

These initiatives aim to enhance coaching skills and opportunities in our region.

Check the schedule at the end of the newsletter to see when we would like to offer this. Please note that the specific dates and details will be confirmed as we get closer to the season. Stay tuned for updates on our coaching pathway!

COACH COURSES

This season, we introduced our Fun/Mini Stick Coach Course at three locations: Ranfurly, Cromwell, and Queenstown. We conducted workshops both indoors and on the turf, focusing on the playful aspects of learning.

For the next year, we plan to offer this workshop at the beginning of the season. Please see the pathway on the left. Thank you, coaches, for attending this workshop!

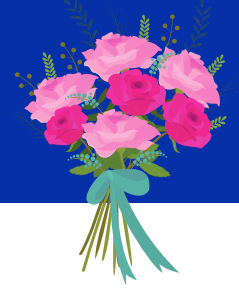


We also had the pleasure of hosting Jolene from Otago Hockey for a mid-season hockey coach clinic. During this clinic, we learned new skill activities and discovered the ways for coaches to bring out the best in their players. We hope to bring this course back next season.

Thanks to Otago Hockey for making this course possible in Central Otago, and thank you, coaches, for attending the course!



VOLUNTEERS OF THE MONTH



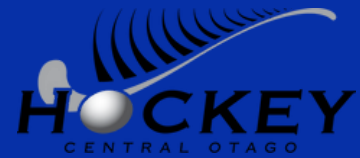
If we don't have volunteers, we don't have hockey!

For this month we have Rachel Stanton in our spotlights! She did an excellent job helping our goalies in the development programs this season. We truly appreciate her volunteering her time to support the growth of Central Otago's goalies. Rachel's contributions mean a lot to us, and we're very thankful for her efforts.

Rachel Stanton

THANK YOU!

BIG THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS THIS SEASON!



**AOTEAROA
GAMING
TRUST**

**Pub
Charity™**
Limited



SPRINGVALE CONTRACTING LTD
Mining/Quarrying Management



RJ CAREY LTD

**OXFORD
EDGE**

fairview
EXCEPTIONAL WINDOWS & DOORS



RD
petroleum



Gary ANDERSON ESTD 1989
SOLUTIONS FOR SOUND & VISION



**IVES
DESIGN**
WANAKA

ASPIRING EVENTING LIMITED

MANIOTOTO CONTRACTING
(2004) Ltd



**HAY • BALEAGE • CULTIVATION
DRILLING • FEED SALES • SILAGE**

NEW WORLD
Alexandra

SPORTING EDGE

NINE MILE

SUPERIOR
SOLID FERTILISER SPECIALISTS SINCE 2001

**anderson
lloyd.**

MAY
PLUMBING GAS

paperplus
Cromwell

CHALLENGE ! RIVERSDALE

NUMBERS THIS SEASON

WHAT?	SPECIFIC:	NUMBERS:
Competition	Fun/Mini Sticks: 127 Players, Kiwi Sticks 153 Players, Kwik Sticks Girls: 82, Kwik Stick Boys: 104, H/S Div 2: 134, H/S Div 1: 106, Senior Women: 88, Senior Men: 44.	838 Players
Holiday Programs	Kick Start Hockey Day (Hockey/ Non Hockey Players)= 197 Players. Sporting Edge=50 Players (7 Y1-4 Players, 8 Y5-8 Players. 35 U15/18 Players). Funkey Hockey Holiday Program= 74 Players. Joe Morrison= 11 Players (Session cancelled).	282 Players
School Visits	22 Schools, Large schools several times a week, some classes 2 sessions, Average 5-8 lessons per day, average 20 children in a class, a total of +/- 6146 Players. (Based on the time tables with number of children).	6146 Players
Funkey Hockey Program	Alexandra: 55 participants Cromwell: 98 participants Queenstown: 118 participants Wanaka: 84 participants	355 Players
Development Programs	U13 Program: 88 Players. U15 Program: 44 Players. U18 Program/U15 Accelerator: 48 Players.	180 Players

PREVIEW NEXT SEASON- PROPOSED CALENDER

FEBRUARY

Summer Funkey
Hockey Holiday
Program

Start Funkey
Hockey

MARCH

Funkey Hockey

U18/U15
Development
Program

APRIL

Pre Season
Competition U15-
Premier Players

U18 Training
Sessions + Practice
Games

Umpire/Coach Clinic

Back2Hockey
Holiday Program

MAY

Hockey Season
Celebration
(Festival week)

U18 Training
Sessions +
Practice Games

Start
Competition

JUNE

Ian Smith
Tournament

Umpire/Coach
Clinic

Competition

U18 Training
Sessions +
Practice Games

JULY

U18 Tournament

Funkey Hockey
Holiday Program

Competition

Funkey Local
Competitions

AUGUST

Funkey Local
Competitions

U13/U15
Development
Program

Final Week
Competitions

SEPTEMBER

U13 Development
Program and
Tournament

U15 Development
Program and
Tournament

OCTOBER

U15 Tournament

We have created a calendar for the upcoming season. This is a general outline, but we also have a specific schedule available for viewing through [these link: click here!](#)

Please note that everything is still subject to change. If you have any other ideas or suggestions, they are welcome! You can send questions about programs to development@coha.org.nz. The website will be updated soon for the next season.

Wishing everyone a successful and enjoyable hockey season ahead!- Berber.

Participant Survey 2023

REPORT - SEPTEMBER 2023

Background

Last year, Central Otago Hockey Association (COHA) developed a participant survey with assistance from Morgan Jarvis, Sport Otago's Insights and Evaluation Lead.

This survey was designed to obtain feedback from all individuals involved in hockey in the region, to help COHA better understand the current challenges and needs of participants in the region and to assist with COHA's strategic planning. The 2022 survey received 72 responses, with a report summarising key findings subsequently provided to COHA and shared with the hockey community.

Given the success of last year's survey, COHA recently conducted a follow-up survey to re-assess opinions and monitor areas for improvement and opportunity.

Key findings - 2023

- There were **142 responses** to this year's survey, almost double last year's responses. **Overall satisfaction remains very good** – 88% were satisfied or very satisfied with their overall hockey experience, a 12% increase over last year.
- **Females and younger respondents were generally highly satisfied** with their overall hockey experience.
- **Satisfaction ratings improved** in all specific aspects except for facilities (which remained highly rated):
 - **Coaching & skill development opportunities:** 81% satisfied (+19% from last year).
 - **Communication from the Association:** 74% satisfied (+19% from last year).
 - **Competitions that cater for players needs:** 72% satisfied (same as last year).
 - **Facilities:** 80% satisfied (-2% from last year).
 - **Umpire satisfaction:** 73% satisfied (+7% from last year).
 - **Festival days** were again a popular choice for programmes to be retained/added.
- The new **Funkeys programme was popular**, although there were suggestions to move it to Term 1 to capture new registrations for the season.
- The biggest **barriers to participation** in the sport remain the time and financial cost involved with travelling for matches and training, along with the financial costs associated with fees, and the limited facilities available across the region.
- There was a lot of **positive feedback for COHA**, with recent improvements in the sport noted by many respondents. Plenty of constructive and subjective feedback has also been collated and provided to COHA.

Respondent demographics

142

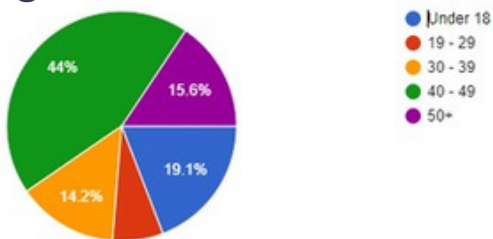
Responses
(2022: 72)

There were 142 responses to this year's survey - a 97% increase over the 72 responses received in last year's survey.

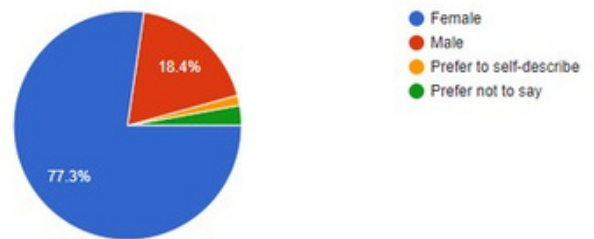
60% of respondents were aged 40+. There were 27 responses from people aged 18 and under, and 10 from people aged 19-29.

77% of respondents were female. 2 respondents preferred to self-describe their gender, while 4 preferred not to say their gender.

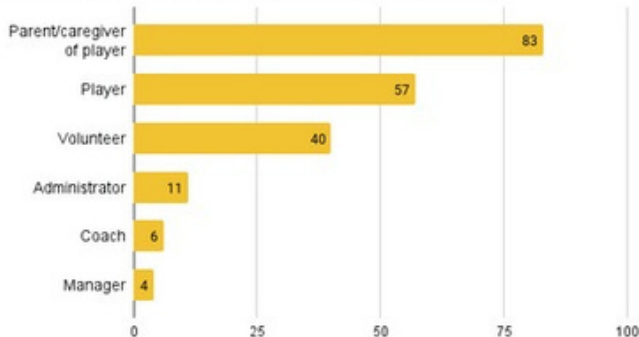
Age



Gender



Role in the sport



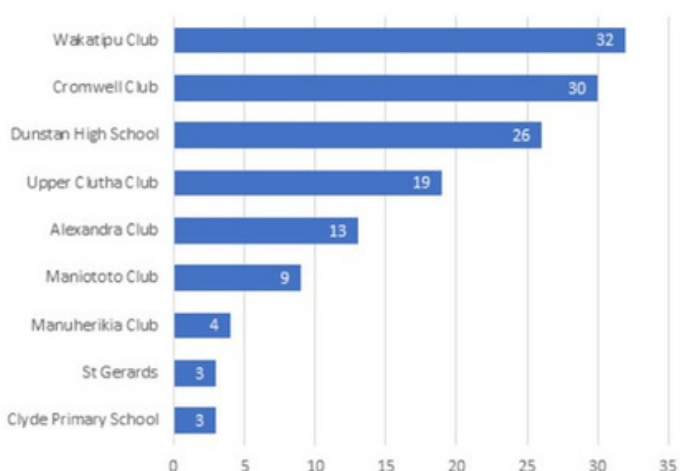
40% of respondents were current players.

59% of respondents were parents or caregivers of players.

28% were primarily volunteers.

Some respondents selected involvement in multiple roles in the sport.

Club of respondent

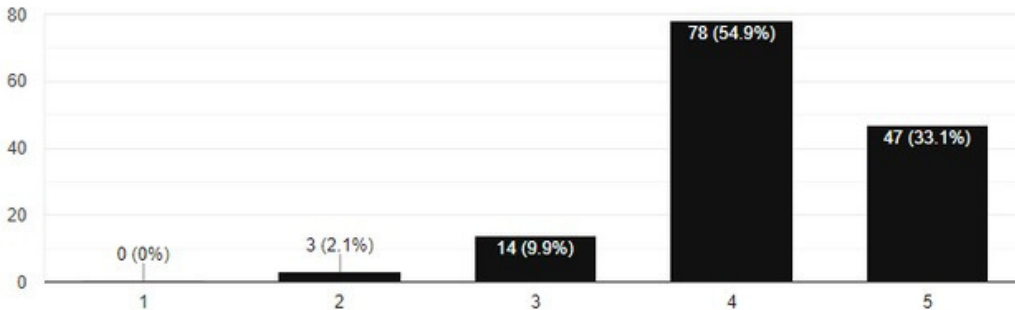


There were respondents from nine different clubs.

Wakatipu was the most heavily represented in the survey with 32 responses (23% of the total), followed by Cromwell and Dunstan High School.

Detailed survey findings

Overall hockey experience



Respondents were asked to rate their overall hockey experience from 1 to 5 (1 = very dissatisfied, 5 = very satisfied)

Overall satisfaction is very good, and slightly improved over last year.

88% of respondents rated their overall hockey experience at either 4 or 5 out of 5 (compared to 76% last year). There were no ratings of 1, and three ratings of 2.

All of the 27 respondents aged under 18 rated their overall experience either 4 or 5.

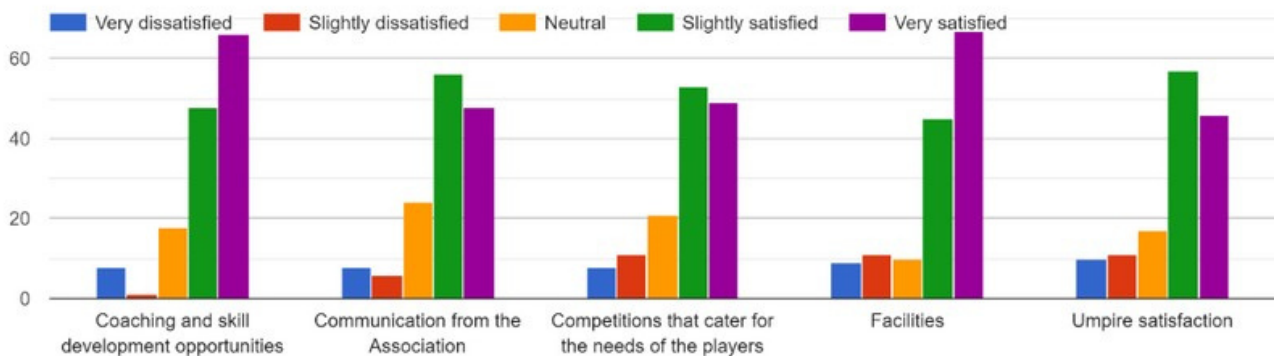
Females were typically highly satisfied with their hockey experience, with no respondents dissatisfied and 41 of the 109 respondents very satisfied.

How would you rate your overall hockey experience?					
	2	3	4	5	Total
Female	7	61	41	109	
Male	3	5	13	5	26
Prefer not to say	2	2		4	
Prefer to self-describe		2		2	

How would you rate your overall hockey					
	2	3	4	5	Total
Under 18			19	8	27
19 - 29	2	1	5	2	10
30 - 39	2	10	8	20	
40 - 49	1	8	35	18	62
50+	3	9	10	22	

Rating specific aspects of the hockey experience

How would you rate each of the following aspects of your hockey experience?



- **Coaching and skill development opportunities:** 81% satisfied (+19% from last year).
- **Communication from the Association:** 74% satisfied (+19% from last year).
- **Competitions that cater for the needs of players:** 72% satisfied (same as last year).
- **Facilities:** 80% satisfied (-2% from last year).
- **Umpire satisfaction:** 73% satisfied (+7% from last year).

Each category had between 8-10 respondents very dissatisfied, however at least six of these respondents rated their overall hockey experience at 5 out of 5 (very satisfied), and did not provide any additional commentary around reasons for dissatisfactions – indicating that they may have confused the scale for these questions.

Some respondents did provide their reasoning for their satisfaction levels – these comments have been provided to COHA to review.

Common themes included:

- The consistency and quality of umpiring, along with the number of umpires;
- The quality of facilities, primarily in Alexandra;
- Some respondents wanting improved communications from COHA/club, with it seeming like some communications were not always getting fed ‘down the line’ to players and parents/caregivers.

What programmes would you like to be added or retained?

Festival days/tournaments were again a popular choice for programmes to be added or retained, particularly for school-age players.

Some respondents commented positively on the **Funkeys** programme, but suggested it could be better suited in Term 1, to potentially boost registrations before competitions started.

What do you enjoy about hockey in Central Otago?

Many respondents commented on the **fun and enjoyment** they get from being involved in the local hockey community.

What are your current barriers to participation in club hockey in Central Otago?

Do you have any suggested solutions to these barriers?

Frequently cited barriers were very similar to last year, and included:

- Travel
- Limited facilities across the region
- Time commitments
- Financial costs

These barriers are typically inter-related (limited facilities across the region means many participants have to travel extensively, which costs money and time).

What are the current barriers to participation in development/representative hockey?

- No barriers: 44 (35%)
- Cost: 39 (31%)
- Timing: 32 (25%)
- Info / Comms: 15 (12%)
- Other commitments: 20 (16%)

What are COHA doing well?

There were numerous positive comments about what COHA are doing well.

Many respondents noted improvements in communications and organisation from COHA.

COHA's new Community Manager Berber Swart was singled out for very positive praise by many respondents.

If there was one thing COHA could do differently, what would it be?

There was a very wide range of opinions and suggestions provided across a range of topics. It was difficult to find common themes across these areas for improvement.

For example, there are contrasting opinions on mixed vs single sex grades for different age groups.

The comments will be provided to COHA to review in detail.

This report

This report was prepared in September and October 2023 by Morgan Jarvis, Sport Otago's Insights and Evaluation Lead.

This survey is a continuation of a collaboration between **COHA** and **Sport Otago** to better understand the current challenges and needs of clubs and participants in the region, to assist with COHA's strategic planning.

Sport Otago is a Regional Sports Trust providing assistance across the sports and physical activity sector in Otago.

To learn more about **Sport Otago** and regional offices including **Sport Central**, visit www.sportotago.co.nz