



BHC Brief History

To be finalised...

Bellbowrie Hockey Club (BHC) is a not for profit sporting club playing junior and senior hockey across social, developmental and competitive grades. Since its origins in around 1982 Bellbowrie Hockey Club (BHC) has grown to over 180 members in 2008, ranging in age from 4 to >55 years, fielding 12 male and female teams across junior and senior grades. Figure 1 shows the approximate player distribution for the 2008 season.

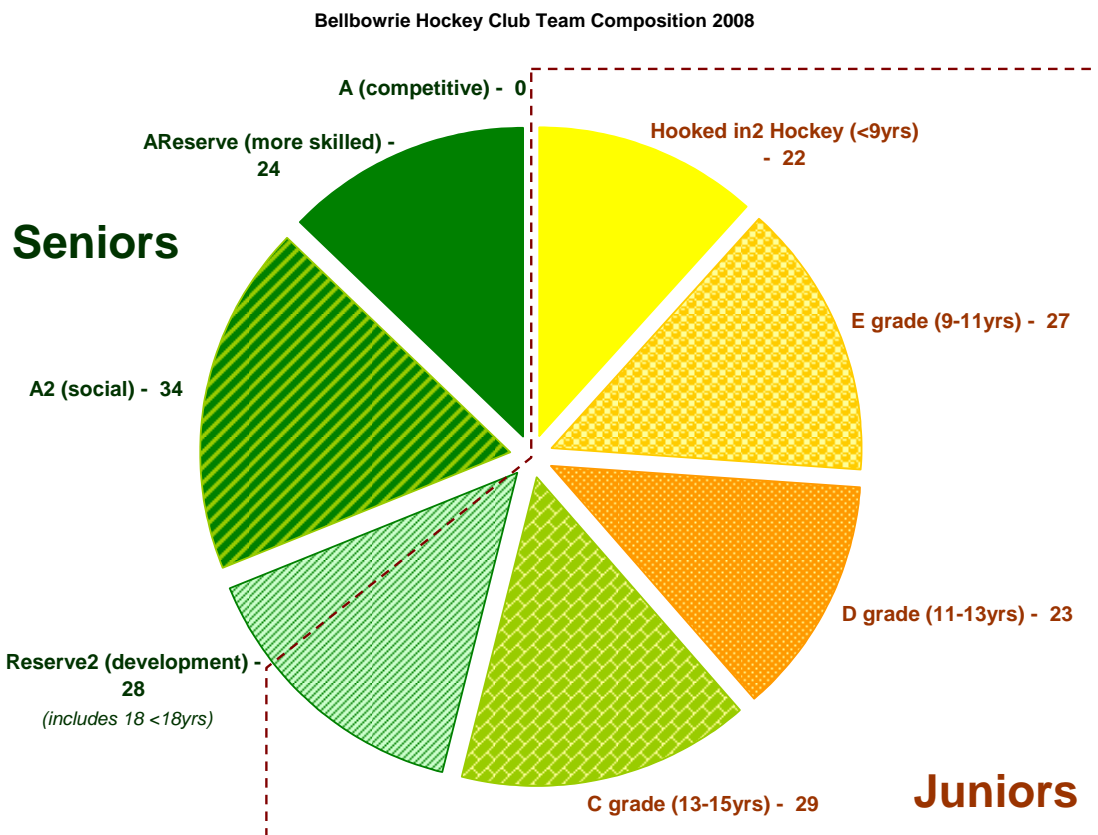


Figure 1 – Bellbowrie Hockey Club player distribution (2008)

BHC has a strong junior base, with 64% of our members under the age of 18 years, and has experienced strong growth in juniors and seniors over the past 5 years, as shown in **Figure 2**.

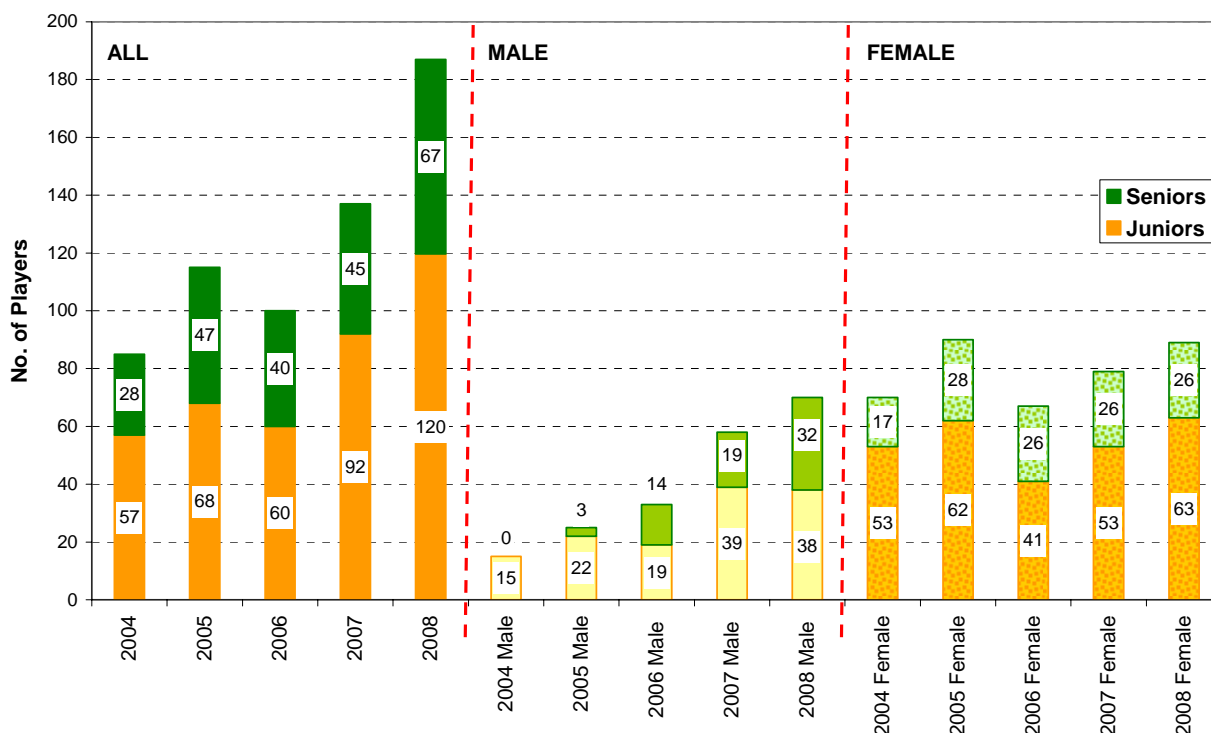


Figure 2 – Bellbowrie Hockey Club member breakdown by age and gender (2005-2008)

BHC participated in the Ipswich Hockey Competition as various entities, including Bellbowrie, Rosewood and Bellrose Clubs. The decision to rejoin IHA again in 1995, after fielding teams in the Brisbane Hockey Association (BHA) and Brisbane Women’s Hockey Association for around 10 years, was primarily based on:

- the smaller size of the Ipswich Hockey Association compared with BHA and BWHA, which provides our players and developing teams with greater opportunities for access to artificial playing surfaces (which are used at state and national representative level);
- the convenience of all grades being played at a single venue. Senior Club members and parents of junior players (who are often players, coaches and managers and mentors to junior players) are able to support other teams without having to travel to different venues; and
- proximity of our members to the Ipswich hockey complex, compared with the State Hockey Centre, Downy Park, Burringbah Park and Redcliffe fields (which are used as part of the Brisbane competition).

The majority of our members are currently drawn from a region in the west and southwest suburbs of Brisbane encompassing Springfield & Forest Lake in the south, Jindalee & Indooroopilly in the north, and Chapel Hill, Kenmore, Brookfield, Bellbowrie, Anstead, Karana Downs and Mount Crosby in the west.

BHC has had many Club and individual successes since rejoining the IHA:

- we generally have at least 2-3 teams competing in grand final matches or taking out grade premierships each year;
- the Club generally finishes within the top 3 clubs on the IHA championship ladder;
- we generally have a number of players being nominated as finalists in the IHA player of the year competition; and
- are well represented within IHA representative and School Representative teams.

After a long absence from the senior mens competition BHC fielded 3 mens teams in 2008, which resulted from a need to provide our first wave of junior boys with opportunities in senior competition.

2008 also saw the implementation of a women’s selection policy, aimed at providing consistency and transparency in player and team selections and to provide opportunities for the development and growth of competitive A Reserve and A Grade teams and the retention of talented junior girls into 2009/2010.



Apart from our sporting successes, we aim to create a sense of social connectivity within the local community through our social and fundraising events, including our annual trivia night, sausage sizzles and Club supporters days. Through involving and supporting Club volunteers in a range of fulfilling activities we aim and increase the sense of enjoyment for families as well as individuals.

Please visit our [News and Events](#) page for more information on the social side of BHC.

BHC Goals and Commitment

Our **Mission Statement** – *Fun, Fitness, and as a team we are competitive* is based upon fostering participation in and the development of competitive and social hockey teams across all ages and genders and providing for enjoyable hockey experiences at a level appropriate to player skills.

Consistent with Hockey QLD core values, the encouragement of quality grass roots participation in hockey is a major priority for BHC, as is actively promoting the playing of hockey and supporting the development of players and officials to the best of their ability. **Our core values** focus on:

- providing young people with enjoyable opportunities to develop, improve skills and learn good sporting behaviour;
- providing access to quality hockey experiences, for players of all ages and genders, as a pathway to life long and active participation in hockey;
- facilitating access to immediate and longer term social and physical benefits of involvement in a community sporting club. These include higher levels of fitness, improved health, social interaction and personal satisfaction from skilled performance in individual and group activities.

The success of our Club in achieving these goals, not only depends upon focused administration from the management committee but also relies upon the commitment of a number of Club members who volunteer to perform the roles of team coaches, managers, fitness trainers, social event coordinators and the like.

Our Club aims to be a progressive and proactive hockey club, with the following key objectives:

1. To be financially viable
2. To develop a sustainable player base for all grades
3. To develop the skills and increase the number of competent officials (coaches and umpires)
4. To develop the ability of BHC to manage and administer hockey
5. To encourage and increase community participation in hockey
6. To develop the standard of individual players and teams

Good communication of the management committee with Club volunteers and Club members is vital to successful running of the Club, as is rewarding and recognising the valuable contributions that our Club members make.

As indicated on the [Development Page](#) of our website, BHC is preparing a 5 year strategic development plan to help focus the day to day activities required to run the Club, but to also ensure provisions and good plans are made for the future. Gathering feedback from Club members is vital to ensuring this process is successful and meets the needs of our members.