

## **Glasgow Mid Argyll Shinty Club**

### **Report June 2023-June 2024**

Glasgow Mid Argyll continues to develop as a significant shinty club. We run two men's teams, two women's teams and youth teams at under 17 and under 14 level. For 2024 we will add a team at under 12 level for the first time, strengthening the pathway into senior shinty for players from the local junior clubs and primary schools which provide shinty. Player numbers are possibly at an all-time high for GMA, especially driven by increased participation in the women's and youth sections.

On the playing front we had mixed success in 2023. The men's first team performed reasonably well in the cup competitions but were relegated from the Premiership. The women's first team reached the final of the Valerie Fraser Camanachd Cup where they were defeated by a strong Skye side. The 2024 season has begun positively with the men seeking promotion back to the top level and still in three cups, and the women through to the quarter final of the Valerie Fraser Camanachd Cup.

We continue to use Peterson Park, Yoker, as our home ground. Following Glasgow City Council's decision post-Covid to close the sports ground, we – along with two other sports clubs – are currently in negotiation with the council to take over the longer-term running of the facility. This presents us with a significant financial challenge but also great potential for further development of the club. In addition, we have the opportunity to host the Glasgow Celtic Society Cup Final – one the four senior cups in men's shinty – at our home pitch, which helps to raise the club's profile.

As we pursue this ambitious project, our association with Hillhead remains important. The ability to train at Hughenden on grass under lights during our winter pre-season and early season is a key part of our playing preparations. Use of the facilities for our club AGM and other meetings and events is also much appreciated. 2024 is GMA's centenary year and among the events we have planned to mark our centenary is a dinner-dance taking place at Hughenden in August. On behalf of the shinty club, I would like to thank Hillhead Sports Club for their continued and valuable support.