



A Decade of Women @ SPOC HOCKEY

2008- 2017

A potted history- prepared by Scottie, Lydie, Ally, Hils and Bron. Memories can be hazy so we apologise for any inaccuracies

Why we play?

Friendships (new and old)

Work/Life/Home balance

Winners' Glory

Sense of community

Fitness

For the social events

Mental Health

Welcoming Environment

Fun times

Post match sweet treats



2008- Humble Beginnings

The first women's team at SPOC was formed by Fi and Lydie Paton after a few alcohol inspired conversations with some male SPOC players. A uniform was designed at said meeting including the infamous 'pink undergarments' and a team was entered in the Div 2 (M1) divisions. The early days were not without their challenges including late arriving uniforms, some overzealous recruiting assumptions and some heavy on-field losses. Despite all of this, a new era had begun and the future of women at SPOC was blue and bright.

2009- The Slow Burn

09 was another challenging year on the pitch for the fledgling women's side of the club. A second team was entered in Div 5 but often the gap between 2s and 5s was too big to be of much support. Tom Greenwell guided the M5 Women in their first year. Moysten coached the Div 2 women and the team finished with the wooden spoon. Spirits were not dampened though and some great social activities were hosted including a thoroughly entertaining 'Where's Wally' pub crawl.

2010- First Finals

Off season recruiting was strong in 2010 with 3 solid teams stepping out in royal blue. The Top women's team was relegated to Div 3 and played their first finals campaign to secure a Runners Up medal against Adelaide. The two Div 5 teams also made finals. A thrift Op-shop Formal themed Pub Crawl and a Cops and Robbers themed Quiz Night were the highlights of the social calendar.

2011- An Even Spread

SPOC Women were reinstated to M1W competition and one of the M5W team moved to M3W. Resulting in womens teams in M1W, M3W and M5W. The even spread allowed players the opportunity to play to their ability and availability and a thriving social calendar continued including the excellent curry night.

2012-New Faces

The beginning of the 2012 season saw many new players join the Club. The M1 Women took on several new recruits to fill positions left vacant by girls who spent the year overseas. Although never looking like making finals, the girls never lost their determination and remained competitive throughout the season often losing by a goal in many close fought encounters. On the other hand, the M3 Women had a successful season securing third place at the end of the minor rounds. In a highly contested final, the girls went down 4 – 3 in a match that was goal for goal. The M5 Women, who were predominately a new team from the previous year, came together strongly under the watchful eye of Tom Greenwell, to finish just outside the top four on percentage.

2013- Dressing to Impress

It's indisputable SPOC Women play great hockey. What has also become apparent over the years is that there is also a fierce talent and passion for a themed event! The 2013 pub crawl 'The Hunt' that featured horses, hounds and hunters was no exception. It also heralded the arrival of Deb Hocking who would prove to be a shining light for on -field and off-field extravagance. The M1 women played finals but finished Runners Up overall.

2014- Top Team Glory

After several competitive years in M1, and some achingly close finals, the M1W team finally tasted the ultimate prize under coach Sam Hilditch! A resounding 5-1 win over Port was celebrated long and hard. Fi Paton was named the Division's leading goalscorer. The M3W Team were undefeated in the minor rounds but unfortunately got bundled out of finals in straight sets. Off field activities included a hilarious 'S themed' pub crawl that saw the Spice Girls star, with karaoke and fake abs to boot!

2015- Annesley OS Arrives

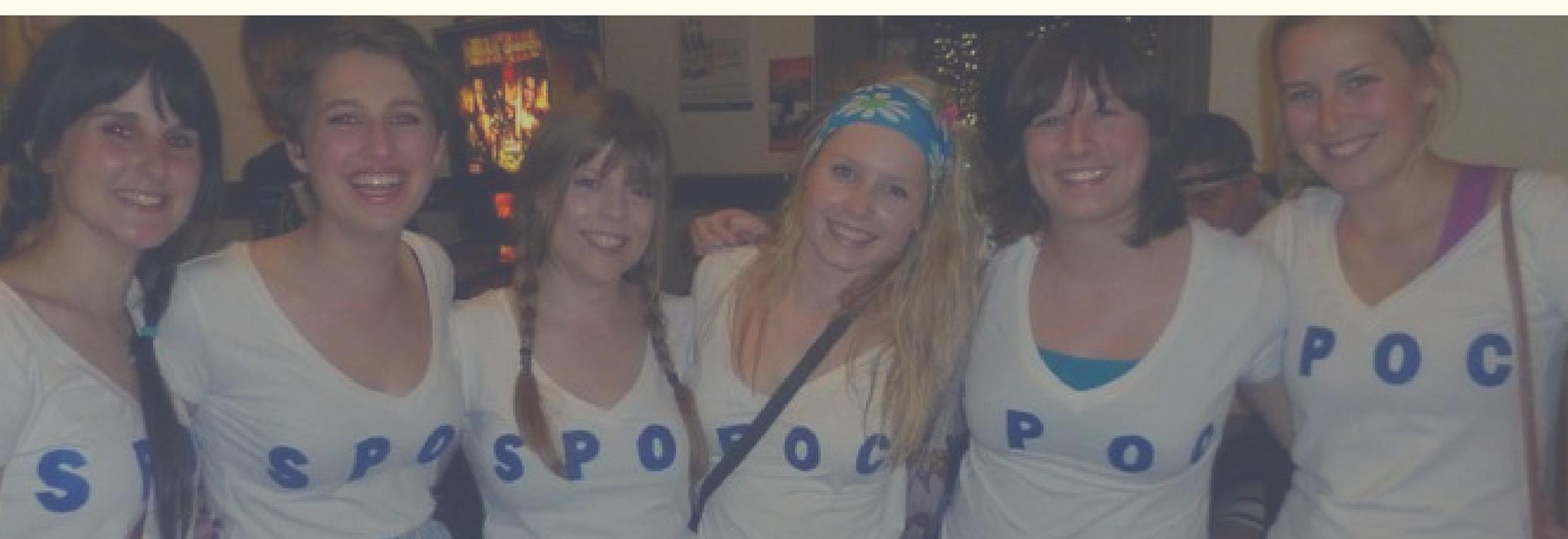
Inspired by the positive transition of ex-players like Stephie Fisher & Deb Hocking, and keen to join a club with similar values, the bulk of the AOSHC players joined SPOC in 2015. Those with a 'maroon heart' would soon blend throughout the club filling spots on the field, in the coaches' box and across the committee in this, and subsequent, years. 2015 saw the two blended M5W teams play off in an all SPOC Grand Final that was decided by a goal in the dying minutes. The M1W team also made the Grand Final but couldn't secure the ultimate prize.

2016- Finals Fever

Both the M1W and M4W (elevated to a new div) played finals in 2016. The M1 women had a strong year and made it to their third Grand Final in as many years. The team, lead by Abby Wallett and coached by Fraser Bowden took it to One on Ones against Adelaide in nail biting finish with Stephie Fisher well and truly earning her medal in goals. A hugely successful Quiz Night was held at Pultney. This fundraiser was expertly organised by Ali Vince who was also named the club's Rising Star after only taking up hockey the previous year!

2017- A Decade Old- and stronger than ever

Home games returned to Saints, and 4 competitive womens' teams were fielded in 2017. The M4W, coached by Stephie Fisher, continued their dominant form finishing both minor and major premiers. Founding member Lydie returned for a brief stint on the field for the M1W and then in the coaches box for the M2W as she prepared to welcome twins into the world. The M5W welcomed new recruits with their traditional warmth and enjoyed a solid season under the stern, but encouraging eye, of Coach Dave. Wine cellars were stocked and the arrival of themed trainings were met with typical creative enthusiasm by all womens teams.



The founders

Sisters Fi and Lydie Paton were inspired to create a female team under the SPOC banner in 2008.

Both have played in premierships in the club's top team and served tirelessly on the committee.

On behalf of the numerous of women who have played for and enjoyed the SPOC Community-
thank you Fi and Lydie!

Long Termers

Ally Newcombe ('08)

Lydie Paton ('08)

Fi Paton ('08)

Jacqui Turner ('08)

Bron Dutch ('08)

Gee Harvey ('08)

Jo Cundy ('08)

Hils Pocock ('09)

Lucy Pocock ('10)

Anna Dearman ('10)

Raph Oest ('10)

Premiership Glory

2010- D3 Runners Up

2013- M1 Runners Up

2014- M1 Premiers

2015- M5 Premiers

2015- M5 Runners Up

2015- M1 Runners Up

2016- M1 Premiers

2017- M4 Premiers



The Social Side

Playing at SPOC is about more than just the action on field. Socialising as individual teams and a whole club has been done with gusto throughout the years.

Pub crawls, wine tours, quiz nights, preseason fitness jaunts, curry nights, post Grand Final celebrations, themed trainings and EOS presentation nights have all been well attended (and often organised) by the women of SPOC.

Many memorable moments (and a few fuzzy ones) remain with the playing group past and present. That's the beauty of team sport!

here's cheers

to another

DECADE & MORE!

