



Rover Oxford celebrate double success!

Rover Oxford Hockey Club have won two trophies at the Oxfordshire Sports Awards 2007.



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Firstly Nick Malden won the 'Coach of the Year' award with the club also winning 'Club of the Year' trophy. Both awards came after a hugely successful year in the short history of Rover Oxford Hockey Club.

Rover Oxford had a superb 2006-2007 season winning promotion with 3 of their 8 teams. These included the women's 1st XI returning to Slazenger England Hockey League and the men's 1st XI entering South Premier 2 for the first time. The club has also added two extra teams in two years with a new men's 5th team in 2006-07 and a new badgers team in 2007-08.



At a junior level the club held its 15th annual festival with 56 teams (over 700 players) competing from all around England and even visitors from Ireland and Holland. The club has also led in establishing a 'Hockey Development Group' in Oxford linking the other clubs, Brookes University and the local School Sports Partnership. As a result of this partnership the clubs have employed a Community Coach, Greg Wade, to coach across the state schools in the local area. There have been over 7000 attendances at Greg's sessions in the last 12 months.

Speaking on behalf of the club Paul Wilson said "A large number of people have put in a lot of hard work into the club and this is welcome recognition of their efforts and the support we have had from our many sponsors and partners"

Coach of the Year Nick Malden has played a huge part in the development of Rover Oxford Hockey Club's youth hockey, as well as many county and adult teams. Nick has huge experience working at all levels and ages, in a normal week you can find him coaching club under 9's, the clubs lower adult teams, the national league team and often a county team in his spare time!



Nick said 'I was flattered to make the shortlist and honoured to win the award. Of course it's all down to great teamwork in a club that has allowed me to develop my coaching at both senior and junior levels. We have a large number of dedicated volunteers who strive to deliver high quality coaching and it is a privilege lead such a team.'

Pictures:

Top: Members of the club committee receive the Club of the Year award from Jerome Sale, BBC South News Presenter (left)

Bottom: Nick Malden received the Coach of the Year trophy from Jerome Sale.

Pictures courtesy of David Collins Photography, www.davidcollinsphotography.co.uk

