Cumbria Polo Development Plan 2023/24

Review

In the last 12 months ([Cumbria Polo Development Plan 2022/23](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1ke67TevxMdhCFaIIYqVXl9Q61-FQBj3gfj0nZhSlaQE/edit?usp=sharing)), the polo development team have deliver in line with the plan set out:

* Run bi-weekly Saturday sessions on Killington through winter, these were well attended and enjoyed by all.
* Run weekly evening sessions over Spring and Summer at Killington again these were well attended and ran smoothly.
* We successfully secured a grant of BC to purchase a full pitch and goals, established Killington as a suitable venue for the county and wider region
* Ran a second coaching course which was attended by 6 participants from Cumbria, Lancaster and Manchester.
* Successfully set up a Womens team for the National and Regional leagues managed by Hilary. Team finished 3rd in Div 1, and regional league starts this weekend.
* Successfully entered a Regional Div 2 team currently sat 3rd in the league table managed by Mike.
* Started purchasing BAs and rash vests for the teams.
* We had a total of 3 indoor Cumbria tournaments and ran a regional coaching day at Killington
* Created a new logo, branding and merch for the teams.

Venue development plan

Going forward the plans for the next 12 months is to continue to develop Killington, with investments in new kit spraydecks, paddles which will be funded through a Sport England grant and sponsorship.  Look at pontoons for the far side of the pitch and possible decking for the other which could also be used by other Killington members.

Training plans

We will continue to run Saturday sessions at Killington though winter, from May to October we plan to have two sessions this year one more aimed at beginners and the other team training, these will be Tuesday and Thursdays.

Team development

We are aiming to enter a Div 2 National team and attend some summer tournaments.

Cumbria tournaments

These struggled a little last year especially with the outdoor ones, so the plan is to pause these this year and possibly host a end of summer tournament at Killington.  Instead we’ll be hosting monthly sessions at Killington aimed at club development, the first on is in December.

Coach development

Next year I’m looking at organising a core coach course, as this has been flagged by a few people and by Ant who runs the coaching course.  In addition we have booked assessments for May! And plan to run a foundation safety course at Killington.

Club support

To support the local clubs in the area, we have offered Killington to Penrith who have just lost their venue at the Yacht Club, working with Lakeland and Red Rose to set up a beginner session in Kendal to hopefully drive new polo recruits in the area.  Duddon we’re hoping to send some coaches over to club sessions to help with session development, it would also be good to help build up kit in the club so they can attend tournaments.