

ANNIKA GOLDER

Ladies 1's and U18's



Hockey Career

In 2013 when I was in 7 years old, I started playing for the junior section of Wanderers Hockey Club. At 11 years old, I then moved to London Wayfarers Hockey Club where I played for three years in their junior section. I was awarded the Junior Player of the Year Award for the season 2018-19.

During 2021-22 season, I was selected for the England Hockey Weybridge Performance Centre where I met Astrid and CJ. They convinced me to move to Teddington Hockey Club even though I live near Clapham Junction, which is a bit far. However, 25 minutes brings me by train to Hampton Wick.

I joined THC in September 2022, playing for the Junior section to start with. We reached the England Hockey Supra League finals in April 2023 and in that same season we won the EH Tier 1 Plate U16 Finals. Last year we won the same tournament in the U18 team!

I also play for the Ladies' team. I started by playing for the Ladies 2's in my first season and last year I was promoted to play for the Ladies '1st team, where I am still playing today.

I also play for my school, Alleyn's (Dulwich). My hockey highlight was being crowned double national champion last year with the 1st XI at school: in February 2024 we won the Independent School Hockey Championship, and in March we won the England Hockey Tier 2 Championship.



U18's: Tier 1 Plate Champions 2025

Teddington Hockey Club

What I experienced at Teddington Hockey Club from the outset was how much they value their junior members and offer them chances to shine. This is as much true at senior level as it is at junior level.

Since joining in 2022 I have been made to feel welcome both by the junior and senior teams. In particular, I would like to mention Neil Guilder, who since I arrived at the club, recognised

my potential, offering me the opportunity to immediately play for the Ladies 2's and now for the 1's.

I have made incredible friends here, especially CJ, Astrid and Emily. In fact, after our A Levels, I will go travelling with Emily for a month!

I would recommend any young person take up hockey as a sport. It is fun playing a team sport. Based on my personal experience, a strong team ethos will achieve more results than having 11 skilled players who play as individuals. This is one of the reasons why I moved THC three years ago and why I would recommend any young person join this club.

The future, hockey and me.

I will be going to university next year and will be sad to leave Teddington, but I hope to continue playing hockey for the university team before returning to THC after I graduate.

In five years' time, I hope to have completed my university career, found a good job here in London and re-joined THC together with some of my friends, who are also going to university this year. I am not saying goodbye to Teddington just yet!

Three words to sum up Teddington Hockey Club:

welcoming, friendly and nurturing.



Best friends: CJ, Astrid and Annika