



# TH PRESS

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## Titans men move up to 1<sup>st</sup> Division



For a number of years now, the Gibraltar Hockey senior men's 1<sup>st</sup> division local cup and league competitions have been played by just two teams. A competition where podium was left with an unclaimed position and where becoming champions was the only objective.

Hockey has for many years needed more participating male teams in 1<sup>st</sup> division but due to the high level of technique required to play at this level, it is rather difficult attracting teams to join.

This year Titans will become the third team in the league bringing some excitement to the competition where our decision to participate will not only benefit our team in participating, but also the other two local clubs who will get to the opportunity to break away from the monotony of playing each other all year round.



Our National Association (local competition provider) set this year's league format on a four round robin league where each team is to play a total of eight matches between December 2023 and March 2024.

This team decision will not be an easy one, and will most certainly come with many challenges, but with offensive key players like Ethan Balban, Jerome Dekeyser and Steven Soussi accompanied by our experienced senior players like Adrian Bado, Kevin Casciaro and Jason Segovia, the club can only be proud of their brave decision and will support them at every match.

The team is coached by player Jerome Dekeyser who has in the space of just three months brought structure to the team at their preparatory practice sessions as well as during matches.



His attention to technique and tactics already shows on our players and his generosity of knowledge sharing is simply priceless. Without a doubt, his contribution to the team both as coach and player will be very influential to us and threatening to others.

The team is captained by no other than our popular Adrian Bado. With an abundance of European competitions and national representations under his sleeve, there is no other better suited person to lead such an amazing team.



Adrian, as centre back not only controls the defence, he communicates with all his players on the field and ensures the team's offensive and defensive involvement is properly assisted. He is a true asset to the team provided he does not injure himself during the warm up.....hahaha.

Our team is made up of 16 players, namely; Rhys Shephard, Byron Ellis, Nicholas Balban, Kevin Payas (GK), Giovanni Origo, Adrian Bado, Kevin Casciaro, Wesley Fernandez, Lee Shimidzu, Ivan Massetti, Jerome Dekeyser, Ethan Balban, Jason Segovia, Steven Soussi Jnr, Paul Evans and Steven Soussi. For a 1<sup>st</sup> division team, the ideal number of players is between 20 and 22 players to cover for potential injuries, sicknesses and unavoidable absences. The club is already working at signing a couple of extra players who will strengthen our team even further.

**The club is thrilled to see the enthusiasm of its members and the opportunities their decisions offer to a future they are being part of!**

