



Kings Langley hockey club's under-13s were joint premiers in their first year in the Sydney Junior Hockey Association's North Area division 2 competition.

Team shares title

CHRISTINE O'MALEY

KINGS Langley's under-13 hockey team exceeded all expectations to become joint premiers in the club's first year.

The team played the Blue side from Gordon North Shore, one of the largest and most successful junior clubs in Sydney, in the final of the Sydney Junior Hockey Association's North Area division 2 competition.

Each team scored in the first half and, despite several attempts from both sides, including ten minutes each way of extra time, the score remained even.

GNS will hold the trophy for the first six months and Kings Langley will receive it for the latter six.

Sim Reet scored the goal for Kings Langley.

Club founder Lyn O'Reilly said it was a big achievement for a first year team who trained on tennis courts.

"A lot of them haven't played a winter team sport before or for a number of years," she said.

The boys went from losing their first match 11-nil to making the grand final.

"For some it was the first time they picked up a

hockey stick," Mrs O'Reilly said.

"They've progressed in their skills and working as a team. They're very energetic and enthusiastic and encourage each other well.

"The other team was probably more skilful but they have developed to compete and actually look like hockey players."

GNS is one of three Sydney clubs with access to a hockey field making it among the three strongest in the city.

"When we told some of the GNS guys we were training on a tennis court their eyes popped out of their heads," Mrs O'Reilly said.