

Canterbury Friars 0 Grasshoppers 2

TW Grasshoppers began the game well, but as Canterbury foiled their early attacks the Hoppers wondered whether they would miss the forwards who had withdrawn from the match: that anxiety was relieved when Neil Ghosley bundled the ball over the line to end another melee in the Canterbury circle midway through the first half. Canterbury had their opportunities but the defence of Athey, Stebbing and Hastings, together with the midfield rarely allowed them a shot. TW felt increasingly confident and able to build from their midfield of Mills, Burton and Landolt, whilst Canterbury found it harder and harder to build through midfield from the back in their usual style, as the TW forwards led by Ghosley and Holmes harried them into mistakes. Midway in the second half Grasshoppers scored their second through Mills, but the whole side still needed to work hard to prevent Canterbury getting back into the game. The game ended with the TW goal under siege as goalkeeper Crawford (with a little help from the rest of the defence) saved 8 consecutive short corners: a hugely satisfying win achieved through the whole team working 100% throughout the match.

Tunbridge Wells Mens Monarchs 5 Cliftonville 2

Wells began the game in dominant form and it seemed only a matter of time before they opened the scoring. It took longer than expected, but score they did through Charlie Nyren. However against expectations Cliftonville broke away to equalize and then repeated the trick to take the lead. Stung into a response Wells equalized before half-time.

In the second half Wells settled down again. The passing from Heritage and Jenner at the back allowed Malik and Grogan to remain to the fore. Ed Fyson patrolled near the circle prompting the forwards. Nyren completed his hatrick and Duncan Fisker scored two more goals to put Wells into the ascendancy.

Recalling The Alamo..

TUNBRIDGE WELLS VETERANS 4 CANTERBURY VINTAGE 3

The East Kent invaders came in green and white, armed to the teeth with mazy dribbling and close control. Overburdened they were as they chased fleeting outriders who seemingly were able to score at will. These swift footed scouts with sure aim, MacNamara, Crosby and Shearer, scurried through and past the somnolent body of men, taking the tally to 4 before the half-light brought a halt to hostilities. During this period, the invasive force had notched a single gain.

As the sun shone again, the Hawkenbury fortress became a place of hectic disorder – amid the confusion, defenders Knight & Mayes with guardian Digweed, marshalled desperate resources to repulse wave after wave of attacks. It appeared at times as if desertion or defection was the order of the day as ammunition was freely passed to the advancing cavalry; would it need more than a very large bung to stem the flow?

Again they scored, soon a third, forces were all but equal, then, finally, darkness fell, the attackers withdrew and became silent – the vanquished returned from whence they had come to regroup and plan once more.

Other Mens results: is lost 4-1, 2s won 2-0, 3s lost 6-1,. O40s lost 3-0 in EH cup

Tunbridge Wells Ladies 1 2 Thurrock 2

Wells travelled to Thurrock on Saturday knowing that a win would help draw them away from the danger end of the table. A scrappy game saw the visitors struggle to settle but once into their stride Wells controlled the game. Having missed several golden chances, Wells allowed Thurrock to break quickly, an interesting umpiring decision allowing the hosts to score from the penalty spot. This kicked Wells into gear as their flowing hockey repeatedly threatened to beat the home keeper. Goals from Sarah Martins and Jen Hunt saw wells take the lead with ten minutes remaining. However, Wells were still celebrating when Thurrock equalised and were lucky to hold out as the nerves started to show in a frantic finale. Still, a deserved point sees Wells start to gain some form at a critical time in the season.

Canterbury 3 Tunbridge Wells Ladies I 1 Kent Cup

A strong Canterbury side with both European and international experience hosted Wells in the Kent Cup on Sunday. Facing a mixture of experience and youth, Wells knew that a fast paced and skillful challenge awaited them. The game started at a frantic pace and Canterbury caught the visitors asleep at the back as the ball was fed right and then slipped across for the opener within 2 minutes. To their credit Wells didn't back off and a new formation saw them soak up a lot of pressure while threatening on the break. The half turned into an end to end battle with Ele Cairns drawing the attentions of the Canterbury first teamers, so giving space to Amanda Tyburski and Zoe Shepherd to get forward. From a quick counter Tyburski found the bottom corner and Wells went into half time level. With the experienced Lisa Boldrini up high Wells knew they had a trusted pivot to work around. Tireless work from Hunt, Martins, Ball and Allington kept Canterbury on the back foot as Wells opened the second half looking every bit as good as their hosts. Chances came their way and with a little more luck Wells could have gone ahead. With Playle outstanding in goal and Organ, Leadbeater, Harris and Topliss controlling the defensive quarter, Wells had a strong base to build on. Although Canterbury sneaked a second against the run of play, it was testament to the visitors that the hosts brought back their top level players to try and finish the game off. Stout defending saw the threat repelled and again Wells missed chances before Canterbury sealed it with a third in the last minute.

Tunbridge Wells Ladies IV 4 Burnt Ash 0

The 4ths arrived in Erith, this Saturday, with a new found confidence in their ability to overcome the opposition. The team which has managed to remain, in the main, consistent in its players has worked hard on communication and working together.

The team came out hard and dominated the game. Strong play at the back kept the ball within the opposition's half throughout most of the first half. After a number of attempts at goal gold was finally struck with Amy Stables proving her worth to the team with two goals by the end of the first half.

In the second half, Burnt Ash, rallied hard but the 4ths strove forward with Niamh Blackburn scoring an excellent goal after a solo run. Amy Stables finished off the match with another goal making a well deserved hat trick.

mom: Tess McClelland

Tunbridge Wells Ladies V 0 Folkestone III 6

This was a match between the top two teams, but Folkestone very much came to the fore. Wells were not helped by two non-appearances and an injury to the goalie. However, Tess Harrison playing while ill, still cased panic in the Folkestone defence. Alex Hadaway stepped in to help the team and wom MoM. Although Folkestone deserved to win, the score did not reflect Wells part in the game.

Other Ladies results: 2s drew 1-1, 3s drew 0-0

Tunbridge Wells Girls U16 A 0 Sevenoaks U16A 1

A great game of hockey in a closely fought battle between these two teams. We played very well, using the width of the pitch and linking together to penetrate deep into the Sevenoaks half and their circle many times. We had a scare in the first half but some excellent deperate defending by H Turner managed to keep the scoreline 0-0 at half time. In the second half, Sevenoaks managed to score a goal against us and we found ourselves having to fight back. The girls showed tremendous spirit and worked hard to earn short corners and be first to the ball in open play situations. We thought we had a goal from a short corner but unfortunately it was disallowed and the final whistle blew without us managing to draw level. It was a great game of hockey, for both teams the first of the season, and it was a testament to the girls that the score was so low. It is not common in hockey to have such a low scoring game. More to work on, but the girls are showing great skills and really working well together. MOM A Stoughton.

T Wells Girls U16 B 3 Sevenoaks 0

With three players joining the U16s from the U14's it was great to see some new relationships developing on the pitch. The girls played wide and with plenty of support available mid-field, they made many good combinations of passes between themselves to bring the game up into the Sevenoaks defensive area.

Unfortunately our finishing was not up to standard and we had many chances in each half which went begging. With players looking for deflections and sweeping the ball into the net, it was astonishing how many chances were missed. The Sevenoaks goalie was also instrumental in keeping the scoreline to a relatively low number as without someone of her calibre the game would have been more conclusively won. Still, plenty of good work was displayed and there are some more things to work on. It was really pleasing the way the players used each other and trusted each other. Well done all. MOM L Edwards.

Tunbridge Wells Girls U12

Five Under 12 Girls sides represented TW at tournaments at Sevenoaks and Tunbridge Wells. The elder girls (year 7) went to Sevenoaks where Canterbury were also represented, while at Hawkenbury mainly Year 6 girls were placed in 3 teams of mixed ability. Once again the weather was kind, if a little bracing, and around 40 children were given a good run around.

At Sevenoaks Andrew's Amazons and Forbes's Furies managed 7 wins and 2 draws to head the tournament. In total 12 goals were scored, with only 1 goal let in. If the goals had been a little bit wider then goals scored could well have hit 20 as the goal posts bear the scars of numerous TW misses. The Sevenoaks coach was very impressed with our play, commenting several times on our composure (i.e. passing to our own players out of defence), quality, and sportsmanship. A number of goals were scored from attacks down the right and crosses into the "D" which were hammered home. Our poor goalies had very little to do but they looked to be in command of their goal areas whenever danger threatened.

The quality of our play cannot be over emphasised. Yes there were the odd times when we were put under pressure that our composure deserted us, but in general we wanted to pass the ball to the right if we could, and certainly wide when coming out of defence. We held our shape well and worked hard (when required to). While failing to convert chances is something we can work on, the fact that we create so many chances, and from right wing crosses, is very positive.



At Sevenoaks: Elissa Moon, Chloe Lambert, Lucy Shankland, Lizzie Holder, Olivia Jenner, Lucy Whitehead, Bethany Hemsley, Lucy Fyson, Anna Smith, Florence Wilson, Mhairi Fenton, Annabel Godfrey, Isobel Furminger, Mathilda Turner, Alice O'Connell, , Sophie Gull.

At Hawkenbury Guy's Gators, Ben's Bobcats and Paul's Panthers had a tougher time of it against Ashford and Marden. At this age an extra year makes a lot of difference and we were considerably younger than our opponents. In 15 games 4 were drawn and the others lost. We would expect to lose to "A" Teams in this situation (as we did), but the "B" team results were far more encouraging. In 9 games 7 finished with 1 goal or less difference between the sides.

While skills have to be learnt on the training pitch and then transferred to game situations, and at times these let us down, other attributes are also important such as commitment, determination, hard work and spirit. These were very much in evidence throughout the morning, which was highly commendable and encouraging. Our work off the ball and tackling was good, but our distribution poor. The "V" drag on which we have spent so much time was absent, and there was a proclivity to just get rid of the ball. Additionally the earlier you make a challenge, the closer you get to an attacker with the ball, the better chance there is of making a successful tackle. We must be positive in all we do this on its own increases the chance of success.

As said earlier, skills will come with practice and as our confidence rises. We only have to look at our Teams at Sevenoaks to realise the strides that have been made in the short time we have been together this year. All I can ask for is that we continue to try our best, work for each other, and listen to the coach.

At Hawkenbury: Lily Parfitt, Fran Reali, Cailin DeWit, Honor Morel, Lucy Ritson, Beth Shaw, Lydia Woodcock, Sarah Exall, Libby Horobin, Sophie Plummer, Sarah Exall, Dulcie Loveland, Francesca Tute, Martha Tipper, Lotte Holder, Emelia Hollingsworth, Georgina Allington, Octavia Bathurst, Abigail Evans, Rachel Richards, Charlotte Knudson, Madison Gallagher, Lauren Levine, Molly Sacker, Stephanie Hobbs.