

Tunbridge Wells Mens I 6 Canterbury 0

After last weeks enigmatic win, Tw 1's travelled to Canterbury, one of the biggest clubs in the south east, to face a tough Canterbury side, who had youth and experience in abundance. Tunbridge Wells started the game where they left off last week, with patience on the ball, and great team work off it. And it wasn't long till Wells won their first short corner, which was drag flicked unstoppably into the top left corner by Chris Pelmore.

Once again wells did not get complacent and stuck to the game plan, dominating possession and creating chance after chance, which led to another short corner which Pelmore flicked to the bottom right with equal power to the first, and slammed against the backboard. With further possession and dominance it was now the turn of Pinky Brandt to add a couple of goals, both in open play. For the first he danced around the defense after good work from Fyson, who was a corner winning machine, and flicked the ball into the roof of the net. The second was an undercut shot from the top of the D, which the keeper could only watch fly past him. Sadly for Brandt, he just missed out on a hat trick due to the opposition keeper making some good saves. Someone who did not miss out on a hat trick however was man of the match Chris Pelmore, who drag flicked one last short corner straight into the top right corner.

Impeccable. 5-0 to most teams would be enough, but not Tunbridge Wells and with fantastic work from Tom Clarke Knowles, his brother Sam Clarke Knowles found the ball at the edge of the D and hit a sweet reverse shot with found the back of the goal with ease. 6-0, and a fantastic team performance, Hart, Siggery, Chris and Mikey Pelmore solid at the back, with the engines of the Clarke Knowles's, Hill, and Norman, winning everything in the middle of the park, right up to the immencley energetic Backx, Brandt and Fyson, who never seemed to tire and chased down the opposition defense every time they had posetion. Next week they face Cliftonville at Hawkenbury, which should be a great match, so why not come and support the team.

Tunbridge Wells Mens IV 8 Cobdown 1

After the disappointment of the opening league game, Wells come out strongly. The combination of youth and experience combined well to scythe through the opposition defence. At the apex of the attack was Duncan Fiskin who used his skill and finishing ability to claim five goals for himself.

In midfield James Bailey and Steve Grogan made themselves always available. Adam Woodcock scored two goals and Charlie Nyren one to complete the scoring

Grasshoppers 3 Tunbridge Wells Vets 2

The annual match between Grasshoppers and Vets always stirs a ripple of anticipation, through out the whole club. Seats change hands at exorbitant prices and the stands are always packed. Standing room only!

Saturday was no different, you could feel the tension as we changed and went through those last minute rituals that are so important to the trained athlete(or so we have been told). A perfect autumnal day, bright sunshine, variegated foliage and a well prepared playing surface.

As always Vets used their ' droite de seigneur ' to poach our stronger players, and so it was a somewhat depleted and aged Grasshoppers who took to the pitch. But, we could already see that vets were already in disarray. A team with non matching shirts , whatever next?

The game set off at a cracking pace with the play very even. Grasshoppers looked more dangerous in attack and their defence easily coped with anything thrown at them. It was no surprise(except to Vets) when Pelmore slotted hope a chance created by Ghosley. The remainder of the first half had the same pattern although Vets did start to have more chances all dealt with by our goalie Crawford.

As in previous weeks our substitution policy seemed to confuse and disturb us allowing the opposition more scope for pressing . However Ivory doubled the score, the ball almost hitting the back board. Who needs power when you have skill?

But then we were pegged back to 2-1 before Revell made it 3-1 with one of his trade mark short corner strikes. A further goal for Vets made the result3-2, our first ever victory over our arch rivals. They had the usual complaints about our heavy tackling(Poulton and Pelmore please note and ignore), the standard of the umpiring, the sandwiches etc..

Well done Grasshoppers, a famous victory.

Tunbridge Wells Ladies V 14 University of Kent 2

Wells had approached this fixture with trepidation as UoK have proved strong opponents in the recent past. A team had to be cobbled together after illness took two senior players and further up others suddenly recalled other assignments. Thus it was with gratitude to those doubling up to help that Wells started the game. The initial lack of a goalie enabled Tessa Harrison to open her account from a short corner, never thinking the game would continue in this fashion. Wells went two up but allowed UoK to get one back.

However for the most part Wells forwards and mids were in command. UoK never got to grips with Harrison and she broke through time and again eventually claiming seven for herself. Fine backup was given by Lou Drew who grabbed three for herself as well as supply ammunition for Harrison. Izzy Harrison and Amy Stables scored a goal each as reward for their fine running. In her first game of the season Hilary Breeze grabbed a goal and the scoring was completed by Sasha Spink.

Tunbridge Wells U18 Boys 1 Herne Bay 2

This was the Kent Knock Out competition. For most of the game Wells were on top, but Herne Bay kept a massed defence and held Wells at bay. After hitting the crossbar, Wells eventually went ahead following a drag-flick from Chris Pelmore. Herne Bay had to come out more after this and duly equalized.

The second half was much of the same. Wells attacked, missed narrowly, hit the post, then gave away a rare short-corner which Herne Bay converted.

Tunbridge Wells Girls U16 12 Herne Bay 0

Good flowing hockey from the team on their first outing of the season. Wells played well and kept the distribution of the ball wide, using the wings to attack deep into Herne Bay's 25. The girls played together coherently and used each other very well. It was pleasing to see them switching play across the pitch effectively. Maddy Godfrey was man of the match for her good tenacious play, great shots on goal and unselfish passing in the circle. Well done all

Tunbridge Wells Girls U14 Brombecks 0

On Sunday the under 14 A team had a convincing 4 - 0 win against Brombecks. The score does not reflect Wells' control of the game but, suffice to say, Katy Fraser, who kindly volunteered to play kicking back, did not touch the ball. Our goals were scored by Claudia Lynham (2), Hattie Montgomery and Sarah Martins. A superb performance all round against a packed defence. In addition to the goal scorers Niamh Blackburn, Jess Begg and Georgina Barker had excellent games.

Tunbridge Wells U12 Girls

4 Under 12 Girls sides represented TW at tournaments at Ashford & Sevenoaks. The sides were all of mixed ability, with the emphasis placed on ensuring everyone got a good opportunity to shine, and as you know the light was quite bright last Sunday.

At Ashford Andrew's "Aweless" Alligators and Ben's "Bristly" Bears shared the points with Ashford "A", all teams drawing with each other and beating Ashford "B" and Folkestone. In total 17 goals were scored, with only 2 goals let in and that was the 1-1 draw with each other.

At Ashford: Lizzie Holder, Bethany Hemsley, Anna Smith, Olivia Jenner, Stephanie Hobbs, Abigail Evans, Cailin de Wit, Lucy Fyson, Sophie Gull, Annabel Godfrey, Lauren Levine, Honor Morel, Emelia Hollingsworth, Lydia Woodcock, Lotte Holder.

At Sevenoaks Guy's "Gritty" Gazelles and Forbes' "Feisty" Foxes also had similar results winning 3 and losing 1 and thereby finishing at the top of the table. Both Maidstone and Sevenoaks "B" were beaten by our sides while Sevenoaks "A" and "C" managed to win one of their games but lose the other. Goals scored For 13, and Against 7.

At Sevenoaks: Isobel Furminger, Eleanor Minns, Alice O'Connell, Sophie Plummer, Sarah Exall, Dulcie Loveland, Lucy Shankland, Mhairi Fenton, Florence Wilson, Francesca Tute, Rachel Richards, Charlotte Knudson, Madison Gallagher.

It was good to see the progress made in just a few weeks by all the girls, with some excellent positioning and good control shown. There was intelligent passing and running, and if composure went missing at times it was made up for with effort and enthusiasm.

Coffee mornings / tea parties are becoming fewer, and defenders are pushing up and joining in, allowing passes to be made backwards as well as forwards.

There is scope for: more practice of the "V" drag and hitting, especially in game situations; practice with goalkeepers may help as sides found it easier to hit the goalkeeper's pads than to miss them; improved clearing the ball out of defence, although this is primarily down to confidence in passing.

Food for thought from Ashford was that they had some U14 boys umpiring the games, who were being coached in the breaks between matches.

All in all an excellent start to the season, showing plenty of promise for the months ahead (as long as we keep training).