

Match reports 21st February 2009

Tunbridge Wells 1st XI 1 - 1 Canterbury

With a double header against Canterbury this weekend in the East Premier League and the Kent Plate, Wells were keen to get off to a winning start on Saturday and put behind them the disappointment of last week's loss again Dereham.

The team started positively and tried to keep the game at a fast tempo. But the passing wasn't as decisive as it could have been, especially at the back which led to Wells being bogged down in their own half for a period of about 15 minutes.

However, with Ele Gee and man of the match Charlotte Cremin combining well on the right, quicker passing ensued and the ball was fired down the line to the high forwards who were able to attack the Canterbury goal on numerous occasions. Unfortunately the chances were not taken and an excellent performance from the Canterbury keeper meant that Wells could not capitalise on all their good build-up play.

In fact, against the run of play Canterbury were the first team to score when Fiddimore missed her tackle at the back and the ball crept into the net.

But as is the way with Wells this season, heads did not go down and a tough end-to-end game of hockey unfolded. Again, with plenty of chances in front of the Canterbury goal from Jen Hunt and Jen Rohan, it was the keeper who denied Wells again and again until eventually Rohan breached the defence to draw the scores level!

Wells continued to control the game and a bit more tenacity in front of goal would have meant a winning scoreline. Instead it ended a draw and the teams shared the points.

Tunbridge Wells made hard work of their second weekend meeting with Canterbury beating them 1-0 (goal by Zoe Shepherd) on Sunday in the Kent Plate. It means they are now through to the final on 10th May 09 with a chance of some silverware.

Tunbridge Wells women's 2nd XI 4 - 0 Meopham

Wells, who are second in the league, started out strongly in this home fixture against Meopham. They played a passing game and a few early chances in front of goal, but squandered the opportunities to take the lead.

But good sharp interpassing between the Wells forwards resulted in them finally taking the lead through Rachel Fox.

A change in formation to four in midfield after half time, led to Wells applying further pressure on the Meopham defence with more balls getting through to the forwards, who hunted in pairs. This spell of attacking play resulted in a mistake by Meopham who gifted the ball to Liz Joseph. She took the defence on and scored.

It took Wells a while to adjust to the changes by Meopham after the interval, but they eventually settled back into their organisation to dominate the rest of the game.

A ball through to the forwards enabled Lily Elliot to slip it to Fox who scored her second of the game.

Wells secured all three points with a well-taken strike from a short corner by ever-reliable Di Dunmall.

Tunbridge Wells women's 5th XI 12 - 0 Wellcome 2nds

After losing a player on the morning of the game to sickness and with some of the remaining eleven recovering from injuries, Wells started the game tentatively. However they soon became more confident after Ali Holme hit their first goal during a short corner.

After their first the goals started to come thick and fast. Kira Boulton marked her player well, cutting the Wellcome attack out of the game, while Lara Lay and Sam Barker went on strong runs up the wings, channelling through to Lynne Robertson and Sarah Howkins. Howkins and Penny Carter made some great crosses to Sarah McClelland who scored three goals on the left post.

Lynne Balderstone, who was often thwarted by the goalie having an excellent game, used her silky skills to put away four goals. Holme finished another with a reverse stick flick and Carter scored one of her own with an impressive shot from an acute angle.