

Hockey 12th September 2009

Tunbridge Wells Ladies I 1 Sevenoaks II 1

Tunbridge Wells took on local rivals Sevenoaks on Saturday in their last pre-season friendly expecting a tough game in the hot conditions.

Having lost three key players during the off-season, it was a much changed side that took to the field. Youngster Harriet Alexander and new to the club Caz Jenkins put in very assured performances and Jenkins was awarded player of the match for her strength in the centre of midfield.

The game see-sawed between Sevenoaks and Wells pushing for control and in the first half after a nice patch of play Wells were awarded a penalty stroke. Unfortunately captain Lisa Fiddimore failed to capitalise and it remained 0-0.

Sevenoaks took advantage of the miss and pushed forward winning two or three short corners, finally converting one to make it 1-0 at half time.

The second half saw Tunbridge Wells maintain possession better and improved running off the ball meant that the team began to look more composed. Jenkins, Jen Hunt and Hannah Turner combined well on the right to provide plenty of attacking moves and Sionead Topliss at left defence was very difficult to beat.

And it was Topliss who confidently converted a second penalty stroke to make the final score 1-1.

A good result but Wells have plenty still to work on before the league starts on Saturday against Folkestone at home (Hawkenbury 1pm).

Tunbridge Wells Ladies' III 2 Holcombe III 0

The ladies 3rd X1 made an encouraging start to the season in this friendly opener against Holcombe.

Wells played a fast passing game and created several chances which worried the Holcombe defence.

Man of the match Emily Buckland scored her first through good link-up play with Georgia Noakes, slotting the ball past the keeper. Constant pressure in the second half saw many more chances for the Wells front line but only one more of these was converted – again by Emily Buckland

Tunbridge Wells Men's IV 3 BBHC IV 1

Wells' men's fourth team travelled to Erith for the first match of the season, a friendly against BBHC.

Due to a mix up with start times, the Wells' 11 players lined up against only 9 BBHC players for the first 15 minutes, resulting in a goal from Richard Tinworth in under a minute from the pushback. Quickly, more BBHC players arrived, including a young man from their 2nd team, and this led to several advances up their right hand side, which were repulsed by former 4th team captain Alex Templer.

Half time came with the score only at 1-0. By now BBHC had a full team, resulting in a quick goal from BBHC after multiple shots against the nearly indomitable defence of goalkeeper Leo Garwood. However Wells quickly regrouped, and a BBHC error in their D, resulted in a goal from the short corner by Tinworth, putting the score at 2-1 to Wells.

A solid defence of Andrew Jenner, Sam Spence, Richard Heritage and Tom Holme stopped BBHC's retaliative forays into Wells' circle. There was some quick connective play by Aaron Leadbeater and Steve Tagg, resulting in a third goal by Tinworth in another sojourn in their circle. Playing in his first men's game, young Edward Fyson adapted quickly to the centre mid role. So a promising start for a team about to enter a new league.

Other scores Men's II's 8 BBHC II 3, Men's III 3 BBHC III 0