

Tunbridge Wells III 3 New Beccs 2

Wells resumed the second half of the season after a 5 week break with Xmas and snow. The team quickly slotted back into competitive hockey not showing any signs of rust. New Beccs were put under pressure from the start with Wells playing simple and uncomplicated hockey. The first goal came from a centre half pass from Saeed Malik to Aaron Leadbeatter out on the left who then slipped the ball to Andrew Elley who weaved through the New Beccs defence to score. In the second half Wells continued their dominance of the match with numerous goal chances. Saeed Malik drag flicked a short corner to put the home team 2 goals up. In the last 10 mins New Beccs came back to score 2 goals in quick succession. Wells did not give up with their attacks and with 15 seconds remaining, Charlie Nyren passed to Nick Pelham to score and win the match.

TW Vets 2s 1 Reigate Vets 0.

Keeper Laurie Digweed showed why he has deservedly won many man-of-match awards through keeping Wells in this hotly contested affair. With some new faces and an innovative formation from skipper Mitchell Wells took some time to settle in what started as a fast paced and error prone event. Reigate pressed strongly but once settled the Wells midfield with Steve Grogan and Mark Mason were able to cope with what came at them supported by wonderful creativity from the defence comprising the Nimble Steve Akery, ex club director of Hockey Andrew Jenner, the Venerable Mayes and the Mercurial David Holloway.

0 - 0 at the interval with all to play for in this best of 3 decider. Piers Heagerty on the right flank produced moments of inspiration leading to the most fluid movement of the match that after at least 6 passes found Digger Barnes at the far post who made no mistake. Supported by Skipper Mitchell and Robin Holliday this justifiably was the result of all the visionary hard work the front 3 had put in all afternoon.

Unsurprisingly, given what was at stake, in the last quarter the game became scrappier with some verbal and like interaction but was controlled well by umpire Brian Storate.

Wells held their nerve and thanks to keeper Digweed ran out deserved winners.

Other Mens scores: 1s lost 7-5, 2's won 5-4, Vets 1 lost 4-1

Tunbridge Wells Ladies I 2 Crostyx 2

Tunbridge Wells Ladies 1st XI ventured to Crostyx for their first game after Christmas having had 2 games postponed due to the snow. The ladies were pumped up to win following on from the win before Christmas. The game started out with a frenzy, as both teams were settling into their usual form, and there was a lot of erratic play. However, after 20 minutes of unsettling play, the great combination of a pass from Lily Elliot to Captain Jen Hunt, who ran down the right wing and a long the base line, led to a pass to Tanya Minns for a superb shot past the keeper, and Wells were ahead.

Unfortunately Crostyx were quick to counteract and after only a few minutes, and due to a panic in the "D", the score was 1-1. Wells however had found some of their form and through some superb skill by Player of the match, Lily Elliot, a short corner was awarded. With a reverse shot from Charlie Bowman going wide of the goal, Jen Hunt deflected it past the keeper for a 2-1 lead. Wells continued to defend well, and held Crostyx at bay, for most of the game. However in the last 5 minutes, and due to an unfortunate decision by the umpire, Crostyx were awarded a very lucky penalty stroke that they capitalised on.

The final score was 2-2 which was unjust to the performance put in by the Wells Ladies. They look forward to their next game versus Gore Court on Saturday.

Tunbridge Wells Ladies IV 9 Tunbridge Wells V 0

After a secure win last week Wells 4s turned out once more with optimism and determination to win. From early in the match the team showed its talent and some excellent play was built collaboratively and rewarded with a flurry of goals courtesy of Sarai Howkins and Claire Bowler. Sasha Spink made a valuable contribution on the forward line supported ably by Sarah Martins who is having a fantastic season at right mid. Wells also managed to convert some short corners this week, using the advantage which had in recent games evaded them, leaving the team playing in home colours 5-0 up at half time.

The team rediscovered the left hand side of the pitch in the second half, bringing Lily Loveland and Tess McClelland into play who put in some useful tackles and accurate passing to progress the ball forward. Captain Emma Goff provided some long balls into the circle which enabled the team to improve their score further with Sarai Howkins scoring 5 in total and taking her to 2nd top scorer in the whole club! The defence played well as a unit with the experience of Saskia Booth, Jennie Bowler and Martine Atkinson on the field and Chris Poth in goal never really giving the opposition any chance to put a shot on target. An unfortunate collision late in the game resulted in a broken tooth for Jennie Bowler who will be greatly missed in defence during her recovery. The final score of 9-0 has improved Wells goal difference which is crucial in the battle for top of the table this season.

TW VI 0 Folkestone III 3

The sixth eleven gave a good account of themselves in a very difficult match against Folkestone Ladies ? eleven who turned up with a team comprised of many older, experienced players. Folkestone went off the mark at a frenetic pace which paid off with an early goal against a Wells side who were, literally, caught napping. The remainder of the first half did however go very much Wells' way with some excellent passing in midfield, building towards several shots on goal from G Noakes and H Barker. Half time came on the heels of a Wells side playing more confidently and finding holes in the Folkestone defence. Sadly, however, Folkestone came out after half time fired up and their formidable forward line managed another couple of goals within the first 10 minutes principally due to an enormous amount of concentrated pressure. Wells' defence played extremely well with Krishnah Shah displaying some excellent defensive play but the pressure proved too much in the end. Other good individual performances came from R Ivory (sadly injured off just before half time) and S Martins (who, extremely sportingly, played well in four different positions during the match).

Other Ladies results: 2s lost 2-1, 3s won 3-0

Tunbridge Wells Boys Under 14 A 1 Canterbury 2

A slow start from Tunbridge Wells enabled Canterbury to gain an early lead much to the frustration of our team despite determined efforts and hard work by the majority of players. Good defence from the back three Henry Murdoch Charlie Lay and James Champion with good substitution by Rhydian Shotton prevented any further goals prior to half time.

The midfield with James Lunshoff Alex Hollingsworth and James Meddings tried to take charge of the midfield but met strong opposition with excellent dribbling and short pass skills from the opponents. For the second half the team rallied with relentless attacks from Pete Moore Alex Hastings Oli Kemp Tom Shields and Freddie Hoare but the opposition managed a break away goal with a magnificent shot that despite his early morning training David Parker could not stop. Being 2 nil down did not dishearten the team and with a continual surge eventually a goal came our way. Unfortunately time ran out and the final whistle blew despite the continual pressure we were frustrated in being unable to pull another one back. The boys should congratulate themselves however on their strongest effort yet and should look forward to the next game with anticipation. Keep practising don't forget those skills we learnt prior to xmas and keep working on the fitness we have tougher games to come.

Tunbridge Wells Girls Under 14 A 3 Brombecks 0

First game of the New Year and Tunbridge Wells extended their unbeaten run with a comfortable win against Brombecks. The score did not reflect Wells' domination, with Becks failing to have a

shot on goal thanks to superb defending by Lucy Milson, Chloe Jones, Hannah Gilliland leaving Megan Grist little to do in goal.

Wells' domination was rewarded when clever stick work by Maddy Godfrey gave Sarah Martins room to fire in a shot that was saved by the keeper but fell to Emma Gull who calmly slotted the ball into the corner. Wells had numerous short corners but could not break down the Becks solid defence.

The second half saw Wells continue to control the game and scored their second after some superb play by Georgina Barker and Claudia Lynham to set up Saskia Coakley-Black. Wells' richly deserved third goal came in the last 10 mins. Hattie Wood made another one of her runs from midfield and slipped the ball down the wing for Michelle Donachie to score from the cross. A superb Wells performance.