

Tunbridge Wells Mens Vets 2s 5 Horsham Vets 4

Fielding an unusual looking side Skipper Mitchell introduced what was meant to be the season's culminating tactical innovation for this bottom of the table 6 pointer. Unfortunately he neglected to ensure complete buy in and understanding resulting in a passage of play where Wells decided to play some really strange hockey riddled with mistakes. Despite valiance from Keeper Digweed, a faster, stronger and skillful Horsham side must have thought it was their birthday as Wells gifted them 4 goals balanced only by Jago converting a shrewdly worked short corner by the Skipper and David Macnamara. 4 -1 down at the break, a trepidious Wells were anxiously waiting for what the skipper would say and think of next. Strangely, there was only a loud and telling silence that was eventually broken with wise counsel coming from Andrew Jenner. The Skipper then urged his charges to remember their playing legacy and instigated several tactical changes.

Motivated, Wells bounded out of the second half traps with Jago wreaking havoc down the right flank, resulting in a short corner that the skipper worked to Murray Crosby who cleverly set up a simple chance for Macnamara. Horsham now under the cosh felt the pressure of clever supporting runs from Akery, Holloway and the non stop Robin Mayes. Up front Robin Holliday worked tirelessly and it was no surprise when Macnamara claimed his second. 3 - 4 with 20 minutes to go. Horsham then tried to raise their game through their youthful forwards but were well held by the defence marshalled by Jenner and bolstered by Richard Landolt. Macnamara then found himself on the end of more open and enterprising hockey, engineered by John Burton, and made no mistake. 4 - 4, with Horsham having no answer and with 5 minutes left man of the match David Macnamara clevly denied Jago's stick for his 4th and the winner.

A game of 2 halves, a good win that lifted wells from the bottom of the table and a somewhat relieved skipper.

Grasshoppers 0 Epsom 2

It was a beautiful spring day for taking a leisurely drive through the burgeoning countryside, from Crowborough to Epsom, where your correspondent spent his formative years. It was fabulous to let David Robinson's car " The Beast" out on the open road, although a top speed of 25MPH did hamper our progress. It put the passengers in mind of " The Magical Mystery Tour", especially when we first saw the twinkling blue of The English Channel!

Whatever, so we did arrive a little late, but the others missed the tour and the witty conversation. Therefore I cannot report on the first five minutes of the game but only report that when we joined the fray it was 0-0.

It was a very open game with the defence keeping their attack at bay, while our forwards squandered numerous chances. Epsom scored following a strong hit into our D which caught a defender on the shin, they put the rebound away smartly.

We turned round at 0-1 and seemed to have most of the second half play, but a quick break and cross found us hopelessly exposed at the back and it was 0-2.

And so to tea, a form of chili con carne(?), french bread and Styrofoam cups of tea, a truly international gastronomic feast.

Next week, on Easter Saturday , it is our annual tournament and so we would like to see a large crowd made up of club members and some of the population of Tunbridge Wells. Be there at 10.30 to see the action begin!

Other Mens results: 1s lost 4-3, 2s won 3-1, 3s lost 6-3, 4s lost 3-2, Vets1 lost 8-0

Tunbridge Wells Ladies 1 6 Letchworth 1 3

Wells' flagship team concluded their season with a high-scoring win at Hawkenbury. Narrowly leading 4-3 early in the second half with goals from Lily Elliott, Kat Downes and two from Jen Hunt, Wells' defence remained largely untroubled. Amanda Tyburski, having returned from a stint in Australia took an excellent

chance to widen the margin. Captain Jen Hunt was denied a hat-trick when she was scythed down by the goalie, but the need for a flick was obviated with Olivia Rendall hammering away the loose ball.

Wells lost only three times in the league this season, and those to the two promoted teams. Finishing a very respectable 4th Wells will hope to press for promotion next season. The team (and club) will be losing a few players to university next season and would welcome newcomers of all abilities. There will be summer games at various levels and anybody interested should make contact via the Website www.TWHC.co.uk

Tunbridge Wells V 2 BromBecks V 1

The match got off to a late start thanks to traffic and proceeded to be an odd game. Wells took the lead with Sarah Martins scoring from a penalty corner. The ball crawled in and the oppo had an idea that the ball needed to hit the back-board. The half concluded with a piece of unpleasantness when diminutive Niamh Blackburn was forced to the ground when she outskilled her larger opponent. As if this were not bad enough this was followed up by verbals directed at her.

The second half was riddled with stick tackling, largely inadvertently, as several Wells players, notably Martins and Georgia Nokes put their skills on display. To the dismay of the Wells team both teams were addressed by the umpire who believed "looking supercilious" was a punishable offence! Wells doubled their lead when Nokes, a constant threat on the right, hammered the ball into the far corner.

Wells allowed Brombecks to pull a goal back but held on for the win.

Other Ladies results: 3s lost 3-0, 6s lost 2-1

On Saturday the Ladies held their annual dinner and presentations evening. The players of the year were: Firsts – Hannah Turner, Seconds- Kim Wolff, Thirds- Lara Lay, Fourths- Sarah Martins, Fifths- Tessa Harrison, Sixths- Kira Boulton. The Nevill Cup was won by Sam Barker and with a handful of games remaining the top goal scorer will probably be Tanya Minns.