

## Tunbridge Wells Mens I 10 Worthing 0

### Goal fest for Wells first team

Tunbridge Wells mens first team turned in ten goals against struggling Worthing. Coach Turner knew that 3 points would not be a problem for this quality Wells side, but as captain Gavin Rimmer has said after each game:- to grow into a team that can be champions of this league and challenge the one above we must keep searching for that complete performance. Goal difference was also discussed in the team briefing, in order to regain the top spot. It took 10 minutes to break the resolute Worthing defence down, but after Turner scored a weak drag flick the flood gates began to open.

At half time the score was four nil. As it has been said on so many occasions it should have been more. "Keep passing the ball" was the message from the coach at half time - and the 1st team delivered. Brandt, Christoff, Hemsley all netting. Murdoch wanted his goal tally to keep rising and worked tirelessly to get on the ball. Jamie Shaw did the hard work and assisted numerous chances and even David Judge wanted in on the action stepping through to see his shot fly high over the bar.

The final whistle went and the score line finished at 10-0. The Mens first team sit top once again with two tricky encounters to play before the winter break. December 3<sup>rd</sup> Canterbury 3's at Tonbridge School, 11.30 push back.

### Kent/Sussex Division 2

1	➔	Tunbridge Wells 1	9	8	0	1	42	12	30	24
2	➔	Old Bordenians 1	9	8	0	1	43	18	25	24
3	➔	Lewes 2	9	6	2	1	29	11	18	20
4	➔	Burnt Ash 1	9	4	3	2	30	15	15	15
5	➔	Canterbury 3	9	4	2	3	25	21	4	14
6	➔	Mid-Sussex 1	9	3	4	2	21	13	8	13
7	➔	Canterbury Pilgrims	9	4	1	4	34	29	5	13
8	➔	Crawley 1	9	4	0	5	26	26	0	12
9	➔	Blackheath 1	9	2	1	6	20	30	-10	7
10	➔	Worthing 2	9	2	0	7	6	55	-49	6
11	➔	Holcombe 2a	9	1	1	7	14	42	-28	4
12	➔	HSBC 1	9	0	2	7	12	30	-18	2

### Tunbridge Wells Monarchs 1 Gravesham 2

Gravesham started strongly and TW were kept to their own half for the first ten minutes, unable to get into the game. The pressure told when a poor clearance from a short corner went straight to an opponent who found an unmarked striker at the far post. This spurred TW into action as the defence toughened up and TW's right side began to function. Craig Thomas and Pete Moore causing problems and Charlie Lay supporting well. James Bailey began to cause problems down the middle and from their first short corner Nick Denton equalised.

TW were beginning to run the game passing the ball well and putting Gravesham under pressure. This continued into the second half with Will Lay and Ed Fyson particularly doing well. Henry Murdoch was doing well contributing support to the left flank while still controlling Gravesham's best attacker. Indeed all looked fine till the Gravesham centre midfield picked up a loose ball and attacked the circle to fire strongly past Hale in goal.

TW threw everything into attack, but a failure to turn good possession around the circle into goal scoring opportunities prevented further goals. TW did get a short corner into the goal but it was ruled too high.

Sam Kemp picked up his second consecutive man of the match award for a peerless display at centre back.

#### Grasshoppers 2 Addiscombe 4

Well that was the second half score! But we lost, once again 4-2. The usual story and excuse, they were younger, fitter and generally better.

We made a few chances, in the first half , but squandered them. After that it was all one way traffic, Jamie Crawford continued to work miracles in our goal, making at least 5 first class saves, one diving to his left an turning the ball on to the post with his stick.

At half time it was 3-0, and in the team huddle a player said " Come on, two quick goals and we will be back in it" to which a wit replied " Two quick goals and it will be 5-0". Which was prescient as we were soon 4-0 down.

But suddenly we got our act together, a sharp pass to Neil Ghosley, a run down the wing, cut into their D and a cracking shot into the net. Shortly followed by Roger Morson picking up a pass and threading the ball between their goalie and his right hand post.

If we had woken up earlier we might have got something from this game, we finished very strongly with all the pressure on their defence.

#### Tunbridge Wells Ladies 1 2 Thurrock 0

While Wells will be buoyant with this vital home victory against third placed Thurrock, they will know that the final scoreline should have been far more convincing. Starting at a high tempo and moving the ball at pace, Wells strangled the creativity out of Thurrock. Any loose ball from the visitors was pounced upon and the Wells midfield of Tyburski, Allington, Ross and Gerrett recycled the ball continuously, denying Thurrock any meaningful possession. Drawing Thurrock up the pitch, Wells gave themselves plenty of space and numerous chances arrived, Wells being unlucky to see several far post moves just miss the target. Baldwyn saw her instinctive touch run narrowly wide and Allington was denied a tap in by the umpire giving Wells a penalty corner instead of the advantage. As Thurrock became frustrated with having so little possession, the game started to compress back into their half, with Wells' attacks limited to upgrading to penalty corners. The fourth of these saw the ball switched left to Bex Ross whose bullet strike put Wells ahead.

Half time arrived with Wells in control but not safe. Knowing that their opposition would come out fighting Wells stepped up a gear, almost immediately doubling their lead as 5 minutes of constant pressure lead to repeated penalty corners, the visiting keeper doing well until another switch move gave Ross her second. Hunt, Turner and Law all came close to extending Wells' lead while the defence of Organ, Fiddimore, Tooze and Cairns dictating the game from behind, goalkeeper Ali Playle looking particularly comfortable in dealing with Thurrock's two shots. As Thurrock became ever more frustrated the shape went out of the game, infighting and poor tackling souring the mood of the match and the last 15 minutes were played out with both sides wanting to get off the pitch, but for very different reasons. The win sees Wells move into 1st place after 9 consecutive wins and while the points are on the board, they will be confident that they can improve further for the trip to second placed Canterbury this Saturday.

#### East League

<b>DIVISION 2SE</b>									
Tunbridge Wells	1	11	10	0	1	34	6	28	30
Canterbury	3	11	9	1	1	43	15	28	28
Folkestone	1	11	9	0	2	36	21	15	27
Thurrock	1	11	8	0	3	39	13	26	24
Blackheath	1	11	6	1	4	25	18	7	19
Holcombe	2	11	6	1	4	23	24	-1	19

BBHC	1	11	4	2	5	32	24	8	14
Brentwood	1	11	3	2	6	10	24	-14	11
Basildon	1	11	2	1	8	11	31	-20	7
Sevenoaks	4	11	2	1	8	9	30	-21	7
Gore Court	1	11	2	0	9	17	30	-13	6
Gillingham Anchorians	1	11	0	1	10	1	44	-43	1

### Tunbridge Wells Royals 2 Maidstone II 2

Royals started this away match brightly with sharp tackling and quick passing and were rewarded when Fran Hawkins sped down the right flank and crossed for Maddie Godfrey to deflect the ball home. 1-0 up and Royals took control. Numerous short corners were awarded and with more precision in shooting more goals should have come. It was Maidstone who then hit Royals on a break and a scrappy equaliser followed.

Godfrey restored the Royals lead teaming up once more with Hawkins for a copycat goal. Royals again failed to capitalise on this and Maidstone equalised again 2-2 at the break.

The second half saw a re-shuffle in Royals midfield and Maidstone's quick passing game began to suffer and Royals capitalised with Georgia Nokes making intelligent runs down the left and passing beautifully across to waiting forwards but the chances were missed and the match ended in frustration for the Royals at 2-2.

Emarcia Marcus was voted player of the match for a tireless midfield display.

### Tunbridge Wells Ladies III 2 Blackheath II 2

This was two points squandered by Wells. Always in command in the first half, Wells poured forward, peppering the circle with crosses. Captain Lou Bateman was always in the thick of the action and Sophia Scott and Sarah McClelland combined well in attack. Wells won a series of penalty corners, but were thwarted by the Heath defense. Wells scored two goals, one firmly placed in by Natalie Arkle, the other popped in by McClelland.

In the second half Wells lost their early spark and allowed themselves to be pushed back. Inevitably Blackheath equalized leaving Wells to rue a missed opportunity

### Tunbridge Wells Ladies IV 3 Cobdown Ladies 1

This match was a big game for Tunbridge Wells with a lot of their usual team members unable to play. The first half was rather chaotic with newcomers fitting in and playing against a strong head wind. Cobdown were strong in their attack and there were a few close shaves with goalie Megan Grist working hard this weekend.

Michelle Donnachie scored towards the end of the first half which helped to settle down the team who were now playing in re jig positions with a team member, Maria Watson, retiring due to injury.

In the second half, after a strong talk at half time, the team were much more cohesive and came back with two goals scored by Sarah McClelland and Sarai Howkins. The three forwards, Michelle Donnachie, Sarah McClelland and Naimh Blackburn played a very mature game and were very strong in their attack which helped the team keep, just about, the upper hand.

Cobdown never left off their attack and in the closing seconds scored their only goal.

Man of the match: Sarah McClelland, Xanthe Stebbings

