



## GUILDFORD HOCKEY CLUB

# In Touch

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This newsletter will also be published on the web-site

The future's bright ; the future is Under 18. See report below of Cup victory over Trojans.

Hard weekend for Mens 1s with two defeats by Essex clubs. National league resumes in February.

Ladies 1s go into mid-season break with good win against Havant.

**Have you got your parties together for December 15<sup>th</sup>, the GHC Xmas Dinner and Party. Messrs Hall and Connor will provide first class meal and refreshments for this fundraising club event. Cost £25 per head.**

Adrian Jenkinson, GHC member and sponsor, will be running a sports injury and therapy clinic in the Clubhouse every Tuesday evening 7.00 - 9.00pm. GHC Members and families: 20% off the already reasonable rates charged by Adrian and his assistant. First clinic will be on Nov 27<sup>th</sup>. Adrian is also offering a 10% discount to members who attend his clinics at the Guildford Spectrum or Lido, or the Aldershot Clinic.

All results, league tables full fixture list can be found through website.

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### Mens fixtures for next two weeks

|                 |                 |   |      |
|-----------------|-----------------|---|------|
| Dec 1           |                 |   |      |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> | East Grinstead  | A | 1200 |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> |                 |   |      |
| Shadows         | Old Reigatians  | H | 1500 |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> | Bank of England | H | 1200 |
| Pilgrims        | Southampton     | H | 1330 |
| Gondoliers      | Havant          | H | 1400 |
| Dec 8           |                 |   |      |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> | Old Georgians   | H | 1200 |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> | Oxford Univ     | A | 1400 |

|                 |                     |   |      |
|-----------------|---------------------|---|------|
| Shadows         | Leatherhead         | A | 1230 |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> | NPL                 | A | 1030 |
| Pilgrims        | Walton & W<br>Hawks | H | 1400 |
| Gondoliers      | Epsom               | H | 1500 |

## Ladies Fixtures for next two weeks.

|                 |                     |   |   |      |  |
|-----------------|---------------------|---|---|------|--|
| <b>Dec 1</b>    |                     |   |   |      |  |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> | No fixture          |   |   |      |  |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> | 2s Training         |   | H | 1100 |  |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> | Croydon MO          | L | H | 1030 |  |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> | Fireflies           | F | H | 1230 |  |
| Fireflies       | GHC 4 <sup>th</sup> | F | H | 1230 |  |
| <b>Dec 8</b>    |                     |   |   |      |  |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> | Southampton         | F | H | 1330 |  |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> | Spencer             | L | A | 1530 |  |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> | O Ks                | L | A | 1130 |  |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> | Woking              | L | A | 1130 |  |
| Fireflies       | Basingstoke         | F | A | 1315 |  |

## Match results/reports.

### Colts Report

#### Boys Under 18 Colts.

#### National Cup vs Trojans. Won 5-2. (Horst 3, Sutton 2)

Yet another treat of hockey served up at this level. Fast flowing hockey, composure on the ball, skill, speed and a real pleasure for all who were there to watch it. With Lawrence Cox side lined due to injury we lined up with our normal sweeper, Seb Horst, eagerly filling in up front. This along with a couple of other positional changes, and the late arrival of our guests, may have been the cause for a sluggish start and after an even first few minutes the first pc of the game was converted by Trojans after a slick move to the left. This wasn't in our game plan and although we had much of the play we couldn't convert the chances we were making. Midfield of Griffiths, Sutton and Percy were running the show but it wasn't happening for us. Finally a forceful run by Sutton, one of many great runs to be made during the game, led to him firing home the equaliser. Percy fed Sharples who shot wide and Sharples also forced a good save from the keeper after a good fast break into the circle. We went 2-1 up at half time after Sutton's good run fed Horst who scored his first of the afternoon. Sutton hit the post with a powerful flick, the keeper saved from Gray and a horrible stick tackle denied Rumball a clear chance. Meanwhile with all this going on at the front it would be wrong to think the defenders had nothing to do, Cox made good saves in goal and Mitchell, Davies, Bird and Shacklady had much to do to keep

the Trojans forwards quiet. In fact one of the highlights of the game was the ball retention and distribution of these 4 as the game went on.

Two minutes after the break Horst's spectacular reverse stick shot from Percy's pass put us 3-1 up and Horst's hattrick followed with an easy tap in after a great run from Sutton. For the coaches this goal was even better than just that as good play from Guildford's forwards defending and harrying in the middle of the pitch led to a panicked pass by Trojans which was intercepted leading directly to the goal. A sloppy goal let Trojans back in the game and for a while it was all Trojans. Mitchell and Davies were made to work hard as Trojans tried to force a way through the middle of our defence, Cox made a great save to stop their revival and suddenly we were back on top with Griffiths, Kimmins and Percy completely controlling the midfield. The final nail went in the Trojans coffin when another Sutton run led to a scramble in the circle, Horst's shot was saved and Sutton tapped in the rebound.

We then totally took the sting out of the game by playing possession hockey to a level that was fantastic to see, this type of hockey needs great confidence and ability and it was fantastic to see a Guildford team play such a technically demanding style so well, (not something I see on a Saturday with the Vets and not something for us to try either). All 13 boys played a superb game, well done, I can hardly fault it anywhere.

All back to the clubhouse for sausage and mash, or in Sean's case plural sausage and mash. I do hope you didn't get into trouble if you couldn't find room for your dinner - presumably no contest!! Thanks Dave the food was great. Thanks as always for the support, Rolf for umping and Dom for providing such excellent coaching.

## **Mens**

### **National League Div 1**

#### **Guildford 1    Old Loughtonians 4**

A frosty morning at Broadwater School nearly put paid to the match before it had even started. However, while the pitch was defrosting, spectators were treated to a Mike Russell demonstration of "how to fall over on ice".

When the pitch had finally thawed the game started well with Guildford in the ascendancy. Some nice attacking moves came to nothing though until Richard "Snowy" Julian was on the end of a fantastic example of how to transfer the ball through midfield. His mis-hit shot somehow managed to deceive the keeper and he registered his first goal of the season.

The lead only lasted six minutes though as a lapse in concentration at the back allowed Old Loughtonians the chance for an equaliser which was taken gratefully. The half-time whistle went with Guildford having dominated the game but not capitalising on a number of chances.

The less said about the second half the better. A soft short corner was conceded early on which was converted to give Old Loughts the lead. Despite Duncan Marsh running the midfield for Guildford, we conceded two more goals to finish the game 4-1 down. Once again, we have shown that we can compete in this league, but are just lacking the clinical edge to win games.

### **Guildford 2      Chelmsford 3**

The 'Ford came into this game against their fellow strugglers with high hopes despite the previous day's loss to Old Loughts. However it was to prove another frustrating day as a well-taken late winner saw Chelmsford leaving with all three points.

Guildford started the brighter and put some good pressure on the Chelmsford defence leading to several turnovers, one of these resulting in a gilt edged chance to Griff who could only send the shot blazing over the bar. Despite Guildford's early superiority it was Chelmsford who took the lead with a shot into the bottom corner from the top of the D. However the lead did not last long as more good pressure from the forwards lead to Captain Usher skipping into the D and firing past the oncoming 'keeper. Sadly this parity was short-lived as some weak defending led to a penalty stroke which was well converted despite Dov's best efforts.

The second half saw one of the Chelmsford players sent off after striking Duncan M on the elbow. Guildford looked to capitalise on the extra space but still found it difficult to find any real penetration. Finally we drew level after a visionary/mis-hit pass from Snowy found its way to Griff in the D who poked the ball over the line before flying into the net with a relish normally reserved for his beloved cheeseburgers. After Craig was shown a yellow card the numbers were evened out and the Chelmsford midfield still found energy to run at Guildford and create chances. One of these resulted after a mix-up at the back left Paul 'Cypriot' Scully poleaxed on the ground. Eventually Guildford's inability to turn possession into goals was punished as an opportune reverse stick strike found its way into the Guildford net leaving the players gutted with a lot to think about over the two month Christmas break.

Thanks must go to the supporters who continue to show up to support and with a couple of months hard graft over the next couple of months, the boys will be looking to a fresh start come the second half of the season

### **Indian Gymkhana      3      Guildford 2<sup>nd</sup>      5 ( Hales 3, Williams, Williams)**

A trip to salubrious areas of London loomed for a second eleven that hadn't won in six. To add to this we were missing our top scorer Adam 'drag flick' Jolly along with about 4 other regulars. On the other hand Gym were propping up the table and no matter what happened we would get a decent curry after the game. So on a bitterly cold afternoon the lads stepped out .....in high spirits.

Greg's revamped formation helped Guildford dominate the early battle for possession. With new recruit Kevin spraying the ball around like a child with a super soaker it wasn't long before Williams junior took advantage of a scramble in the D to fluke the ball through the keeper's legs. The new look defence of Gillan and Alan were making the Gym forwards look like they didn't know which end of the stick to use and Guildford continued to press. The impressive Tom Hales (or is it 'Hayels' Gillan?) notched his first of the game. With Guildford 2 up and cruising they lost concentration and from a couple of quick turnovers, mainly given away by Hosky and

Phil, Gym couldn't be accused of missing chances as they converted 2 short corners to make it 2 -2 at half time.

Despite the half time focus being on not over committing and giving the ball away cheaply Guildford did just that and 10 minutes into the second half even the unbeatable Dan Caesar was overrun as Guildford conceded a tap in 3<sup>rd</sup>. Incredibly and perhaps for the first time this season Guildford didn't capitulate and rallied at the thought of the Cobra on tap after the game. Tom Hales netted his 2<sup>nd</sup> to draw Guildford level. The game could then have been won by either side and Guildford didn't think it would be their day after having 2 goals disallowed. Finally we got what we deserved with two late goals, one from Hales securing his hat trick and more importantly a jug for the team, and a second for Williams junior. The game was won and everyone could look forward to taking the p\*\*\* out of Alan in the bar for his new haircut.

Man of the Match – Hales 3 goals & never give up spirit

Greg of the Day – Alan, nice haircut

### **Guildford 3s 3 (Bungle 2, B Grey) Indian Gymkhana 4**

Saturday's match was against Indian Gymkhana. Pushback was delayed due to the pitch being frozen earlier in the day and when the match finally got underway, conditions were still very cold. The opposition were strong from the off and both teams were fairly evenly matched. The first goal came reasonably early on from Bungle, his diving touch against the keeper putting us 1 up; however Indian Gym were quick to equalise and by half time we were 2-1 down. We came out strong in the second half and Ben Gray drew us level with his goal from open play. A second goal from Bungle drew Guildford back to 3-3 with a well rehearsed short corner routine. Unfortunately we were unable to go on and win the match and the last 5 minutes of play saw Indian Gym score the winner. Final score 4-3. Special mention goes to Bungle for hat trick avoidance and Olie Russell for stopping play in the second half with his Little Britain style amateur dramatics after one of the oppo. hooked his nuts with their stick.

MOM: Bungle

TFC: Olie Russell

**Shadows            0            Wanderers            4**

**Guildford 4<sup>th</sup>       2            Sunbury                1**

**Pilgrims            2            Petersfield            0**

**Gondoliers        3            Amersham and Chalfont    0        ( Frew, Jones, Bigos)**

Some skilful and team hockey together with that rare commodity, good finishing, gave Gondoliers a deserved victory against a determined Amersham side.

## Ladies Reports

**Guildford 5 (Kerry 2, Kit, Jess, Tracey) Havant 1**

Following a lovely rendition of the Backstreet Boys to start us off and Kit's poor impression of Sumo wrestling we started the game off well and maintained a good amount of possession and pressure on Havant's D. We passed the ball well with some excellent one touch hockey and soon got our first goal with Kerry slotting the ball in the net from some good play if only i could remember what it was! Our second came from another good move with Jess receiving the ball in the D and showing good composure to take the goal. We had a few Havant attacks to defend with one training ground short corner clearance - Tappy made the save, Em cleared to Kath on the 25 who shot it down the line to Kerry. Awesome!

The second half still saw us dominating the game. Ave took the ball up the line and into the D and pulled it back to Kit on the P spot to make it 3-0.

After a comedy moment with Theika taking out Sam or was it the other way round we had yet another attack and Kath passed it through to Ave who had recovered from a hamstring injury last week to give us a four goal advantage. We could have scored more – Thieka had one disallowed for a dubious backstick call and could have scored another if only she had remembered to take her slippy shoes off, but it was ok as she stopped them clearing the ball by hanging on to the defenders ankle. Havant didn't give up and got a short corner towards the end of the game which they cheekily lobbed over Tappy, who got a hand to it but couldn't stop it going in. Sal had said we needed to up our goal difference, so we kept going to the end and from a short corner strike that was going wide, Kerry got her stick to it to deflect it in.

So all in all a very pleasing performance, everyone had a great game and we finish the first half of the season respectably mid-table.

MOTM: Kit

PARP: Kit - for an amaaayyyzing exhibition of Sumo wrestling

### **24<sup>th</sup> November Ladies 2's report.**

Firstly an apology to the editor, following my being edited two weeks ago, I will choose my words more carefully in future so my reports need not be edited again!!! And also an apology to the team as in the last report I said that Merton had a game in hand, which didn't actually paint us in a particularly good light as it was **us** who had the game in hand against them!! Ok so enough about past weeks match reports... Well this week we were all looking forward to a good game against Barnes 3's, but having had to defrost the car to be able to get to the club in the first place, we weren't hopeful that it would go be going ahead!! And indeed having arrived at the club and seeing the white layer of frost across the pitch it was confirmed, the game was postponed due to a frozen pitch. The girls then sat down in the nice warm club with a nice warm cup of tea, and thought we'd have a chat as the game had been called off... Unfortunately our coach, Keith, decided that was not going to be the case and had us all out there training hard!! So wearing our scarves, gloves, hoodies and coats we were running up and down the pitch... jogging, sprinting, jogging and sprinting some more, and after half an hour it felt like we had actually played a match, so I felt

it warranted a match report!!

So the ladies 2's are very dedicated that's for sure (not that I am at all biased!), and if we continue training no matter the weather (as we did when we found ourselves the only team left in the pouring rain on Wednesday evening!) we are sure that we can continue playing with the fantastic form we have had so far, and come the end of the season we are sure to finish up there at the top of the table.

Come on Guildford !!

**Guildford 3<sup>rd</sup> 0 Barnes, H and E. 1**

**Guildford Fireflies 0 Aces 1**

After a few of us went to Tiffins Boys School first (ok, just me then!), we turned up for a chilly 4pm game in Kingston. The saving grace was Jules supplying a massive box full of bananas, butter flapjacks and orange juice, left over's from a cancelled school game...their loss, our gain.

We had another week of a Heinz 57 team, this week consisting of four 2's players, whose own game earlier in the day had been cancelled, many thanks to all of you. The Aces were a strong side, and had obviously been playing together a long time, as they knew how to communicate well and instinctively knew where each player was on the pitch. Although for the first half Guildford put pressure on them and we were constantly in their 25. Our passing was second to none and we were making the ball do the work around the pitch. The youngsters also did some marvelous runs up the pitch, but as is all too common, we just could not put the ball in the back of the net. After much snacking at half time, Guildford came out determined to score, and also to get warm as the temperature was dropping dramatically. Mel arrived and took over from a much relieved Karin as Sweeper. Again, Guildford were strong and we were driving up the pitch, Colesy was even in the oppo's D a few times! Due to the cold weather, there was quite a bit of stick tackling (my excuse and I'm sticking to it), but eagle eyed George didn't miss a trick. Aces even tried an aerial shot in the midfield, which Laura brought back down to earth with her stick raised high above her head and received a green card from George for her trouble. Yet again the score did not reflect our standard of play. A big thanks also goes to George, for so kindly Umpiring.