



GUILDFORD HOCKEY CLUB

In Touch

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This newsletter will also be published on the web-site

VP & Sponsors day enjoyed by many, although improved performance does not bring National League points.

Club and Awards Dinner will be on 19th April; put in in your diaries.

Can all players please take their litter with them from pitches and Wendy Houses.

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

Men's fixtures for next two weeks

Feb 16th			
2 nd	Old Loughtonians	H	1330
3 rd	Southgate	A	1545
Shadows	Wanderers	A	1230
4 th	Surrey Old Boys	H	1500
Pilgrims			
Gondoliers	Eastcote	H	1400
Feb 17th			
1 st	Old Loughtonians	A	1400
Feb 23rd			
1 st	Bourneville	H	1200
2 nd	Spencer	A	1330
3 rd	Spencer	H	1500
Shadows	Camberley & f	H	1330
4 th	Sunbury	A	1430
Pilgrims			
Gondoliers	Poly	A	1400

Ladies Fixtures for next two weeks.

Feb 16th

1 st	Spencer	L	H	1200
2 nd	Barnes H & E	L	H	1100
3 rd	Southampton	F	H	1030
4 th	Maori	F	H	1230
5 th	n/a			

Feb 23rd

1 st	Purley Wlctns	L	A	1430
2 nd	Merton	L	A	1100
3 rd	Richmond	L	H	1100
4 th	Byfleet	L	A	1030
5 th				

Mens Reports

Guildford 1 Belper 3 (Griffin)

In front of a large crowd including Vice Presidents and Sponsors we put on an improved performance but unfortunately were unable to come out with a win. We created a number of chances in the first half and took the lead with an open play goal from Tom Griffin. Our early domination waned and defensive errors allowed Belper to score two goals before the interval. We worked very hard in the second half but could not get an equaliser and Belper increased their lead shortly before the end. It did not help that we were unable to force even one short corner throughout the game. Youngsters Adam Jolly and Ed Sutton came on in the second half and both gave very good performances. We are improving week on week but a win would boost our confidence. Next week we travel to Old Loughts for a 2 o'clock start on Sunday. Jenno will now miss several games as he is off to South Africa next Sunday to help with the coaching of their International Ladies Team in preparation for the Olympics

Southgate 4 Guildford 2nd 1 (Adam Jolly)

There are two things you'll learn today, that Darkie will pay for not writing this report and that FatHead is rubbish with boots and booty calls. The bout started a little late, thankfully as the FatHead was stuck on a booty call in Brighton (we are not sure what his name is – the caller that is). It also started without league umpires due to some confusion on starting times. So we took to the field with 11 enthusiastic guys ready to spar with the Southgate heavyweights. We were up against the ropes from the opening exchanges and they used their extensive bench resources very well. Following a lapse in our concentration we dropped our guard and they scored the most lucky and flukiest of deflections, a lucky punch. Then in came their little bantam weight who turned on Darkie making him look cumbersome and foolish and delivered a cunning reverse blow. This caught our Keeps unaware and he recoiled from a killer jab between the legs (not as pleasurable as you might think ladies).

The usually strong chinned Marsh went down with a nasty blow to the head, he saw some stars but the count barely started before he majestically rose to his feet and fought well and on to the final bell. Then the Fathead went down, his boots exploding at the seams, unable to endure the strain of the immense weight of that huge, massive head, which could have been bigger if he knew how to finish off a booty call. Their third blow when they landed a rally of rebound and counter blow (short corner action), well executed and just slightly annoying.

We were treated the most amazing skills from the quick handed Jolly, launching his aerial over his shoulder, the crowded balcony and the clubhouse. Laugh? We nearly cried!

The Puma man (Keeps) stood up well to some major blows in the second half, after that poor first half by his standards, managing to limit the damage to just one more from the Southgate heavyweights. Adam Jolly got on the scoresheet through a lovely dummy and chinned their Keeps with a dragging effort that will mystify and amuse many. Remaining true to the mantra of belief that more damage is done from defensive errors than pure striking brilliance. Barton made some smoking efforts but that left hand needs to find the target to do any damage. Little BigFace made a solid and welcome comeback for a kid weighing in a tad more than necessary. Debutant Neil did a solid job protecting the left side from collapse and Darkie is still rubbish but somehow lured us into voting him our best player, title blow that one!

Southgate earned their points but we earned our dues with a solid defensive effort under the circumstances. We avoided a nasty one here.

MOM – Tim Darke

DOD – The FatHead

Guildford 3rd 2 Southgate 4

Guildford Shadows vs NPL. Won 4-3. (Adi, Ben G, Adi, Ben G)

Guildford Pilgrims vs Basingstoke. Lost 0-4. (No Guildford scorers!!)

This could be a first in the life of "in touch" - a joint match report - is this possible? Who knows, read on and see. Two sides enjoying completely different seasons, the Shadows flying high with the birds in the skies and the Pilgrims plumbng the depths of depression with the bottom feeders in the oceans.

Pilgrims travel to Basingstoke and with an early start are 2 goals down before the Shadows have even begun with their noon push back.

NPL strike first and take a quick 0-1 lead, Shadows win a shortcorner and the shot is deflected in to make it 1-1. The Pilgrims trying a new formation find that it doesn't matter if you play 442, 343, 1324 or 541 if you concede shortcorners and let the oppo get to the rebounds first or give the ball to the centre forward in the circle the oppo have a tendency to score - unfortunately if the oppo do the same to us we are too kind and either kick it, miss it or hit the corner post!! Hence we don't score goals. Bas score another goal to make it 0-3.

The Shadows and NPL are fighting for supremacy of the skies and after much toing and froing go 2-1 up when Ben G shoots home from the top of the D. Pilgrims now enjoy a half time drink and coat themselves with sun tan lotion to ward off the strong southern Hampshire sun.

Shadows start the second half feeling sluggish after their half time talk and come under pressure from NPL, however two goals in the first 4 minutes of the second half find the Shadows 3-2 up. Pilgrims are now 0-4 down and manage to create some good chances as Bas lose concentration, but true to form an open goal goes begging.

Up North the Shadows now go 4-2 up when a Deano run opens up the NPL defence and a saved shot sees Adi score from a rebound. Somehow NPL score a third and then with Pilgrim like efficiency send a PF high wide and handsome.

Great result for the Shadows which keeps us high up in the league, and a predictable result for the Pilgrims which cements our position in the bottom 2 and the only thing that can save the Pilgrims from relegation is a threatened restructuring of the league - sound familiar (sorry!!)

OK then does a joint report work? Well it might have if the Shadows reporter had remembered anything about the game he had played in - "how do you remember what happened when you are running around?". Obviously the youth of today cant multi task - I can remember every nuance of the Pilgrims game but don't want to bore you with the gruesome details. Thinking about it, maybe I cant multi task either as I certainly didn't do any running around!

Guildford 4th	2	Univ of Surrey	3
Gondoliers	1	Oxford Hawks	2

Ladies Reports

Guildford 1s 0 – Horsham Ladies 2s 2

Despite my own interesting detours round Horsham, I was pleasantly surprised to find I was first to arrive to this game (very unusual) but as the rest of the team joined me, we set ourselves to taking on our next challenge - Horsham were 1 point behind us so this was a crucial game and we needed to throw everything into it!

I think it's fair to say we did work really hard. There was 110% attack from the start from the whole squad (from defence through to the forwards), an effort that was rewarded with some pretty decent injuries ranging from black toes to nasty shoulder bruises from wipe outs with the keeper!

It was a well fought game with Genie kicking things off with the first green card (welcome back!) Horsham collected the next 3 greens and then Kath's famous football antics led to her being awarded the only yellow of the game! I must have

been so busy keeping a check on their forwards I failed to notice we were down to 10! Doh!

Anyway, Guildford had much of the possession with some great play throughout the field keeping the Horsham keeper very busy but sadly we just never seemed to find the backboard. Theika had obviously noticed how hard we'd all been working and sent one of her amazing aerals spiralling inspirationally up into the air, over the fence and into the field beyond. Our aggressive tackling and early balls onwards were testament to the well deserved 5 minute break!

We were unlucky to concede two goals from some pretty good Horsham short corners and it was very frustrating not to capitalise on the numerous chances we had. Man of the match went to Emily for some great defensive work and Parp to Theika for that lovely aerial! Next week, Lion King renditions in the showers.... Be there...

Guildford 2nd 2 Richmond 3

Guildford 3rd 4 Walton and Weybridge Hawk 1's

Basically it was a really full on tough match. A bit of argy bargy from the oppo bought out some of our darker sides and a couple of us had a talking to by the umpires but all in all it was a really enjoyable game. Kirsten was a demon, had she not been there I'm sure the score would have been completely different, she was diving left right and centre and at one point it was touch and go as to whether she would get up again, not from injury, just from natural decrepitness..... ;0)

Anyway, a good draw score from us leaves us joint top of the league for another week. The team got man of the match and no DOD was called so looks like muggings here gets to do a bit of scripting again, all good though. Am sure it should have gone to Slick who fell over but didn't know how or why....!

Looking forward to a non league match on Saturday.

FIREFLIES 3 BURNHAM 3

GOAL SCORERS - EMMA 2, HAZEL 1

Fireflies had 14 players available but unfortunately no goalie among them so played 11 on the pitch. The match was slow to start, however we eventually woke up and through some excellent stick work from Shevs and Rusty, Fireflies had most of the attacking play and were extremely dominant in the opposition's circle, but failed to capitalise on the goal scoring opportunities - the Burnham goalie was exceedingly good though!

With the second half underway the opposition again made the most of a break into the Fireflies half, and with no goalie and an open goal did not fail to score. Fireflies being the team they are did not give up, attack after attack, followed by numerous short corners resulted in a timely goal from Emma. With time ebbing away Hazel with a sterling shot made it 2 - 3 and in the dying minutes of the game Emma with the

assistance of Julie scored again enabling Fireflies to come away with a well deserved draw.

All in all it was a most enjoyable and friendly game with a fair result for both sides. Thank you to Sally for umpiring.

Colts Report

Guildford U14 Development Team v SJB

Result: Lost 0-2

Guildford started the match brightly, and had a good amount of possession, however, SJB were the first to break the deadlock scoring in freeplay, in the first half. Guildford responded well. In the second half we again had lots of possession, but unfortunately SJB scored again, towards the end of the match.