



GUILDFORD HOCKEY CLUB

In Touch

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2007/8 Season Issue 24 26/2/08
This newsletter will also be published on the web-site

Ladies achieve 100% with 5 wins. The men achieve exactly 50% with big wins for Shadows and Gondoliers.

Club and Awards Dinner will be on 19th April; put it 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

Mar 1st			
2 nd	Indian Gym	H	1500
3 rd	Indian Gym	A	1300
Shadows	Old Reigatians	A	
4 th	Bank of England	A	1200
Pilgrims	Winchester	H	1630
Gondoliers	Oxted	A	
Mar 2nd			
1 st	Bath Buccaneers	A	1330
Mar 8th			
2 nd	East Grinstead	H	1330
3 rd			
Shadows	Leatherhead	H	1430
4 th	NPL	H	1500
Pilgrims	Petersfield	A	1500
Gondoliers	Amersham & C	H	1630
Mar 9th			
1 st	Southgate	H	1200

Ladies Fixtures for next two weeks.

Mar 1st

1 st	Eastbourne	L	H	1330
2 nd	Old Georgians	L	H	1430
3 rd	n/a			
4 th	London Edwardians	L	H	1600
5 th	Burnham Vets	F	A	1400

Mar 8th

1 st	Basingstoke	L	H	1330
2 nd	Barnes H E	L	A	1130
3 rd	Barnes h E	L	H	1300
4 th	Kenley	L	A	1000
5 th				

Mens Reports

National league – Div 1

Guildford 0 - Bournville 2

It was a much better performance but still not good enough for a win. The whole team battled well for the full 70 minutes and we were perhaps unfortunate not to get something out of the game. We were without Guy Fordham who was injured and had to call up Ed Sutton to the squad from the Second X1. We live in hope for an eventual win and next week travel down to Bath on Sunday 2nd March for a 1.30 push-back.

Guildford 2nd 2 (Sean Percy, Barton Witters) Spencer 2

I feel totally let down, the boys waited until I was in Dublin to pull the rabbit out!

We were short on players and up against the ropes, we handled that well by going down 2 goals in the first 20 minutes.

But, a superb fighting effort saw the boys bounce back in last 10 minutes to steal a point. Apparently it could have been better than that!

I got the call in Temple Bar in Dublin... thought it was a dream

So sorry but due to the dizzy effects brought on by this fantastic news that's all I can remember.

(Nothing to do with the Guinness, the Irish, the rugby and Temple Bar).

To the luck of the Irish!

Guildford 3rd 5 Spencer 3

Guildford Shadows 6 Camberley and Farnborough 2s 2

A really important one this one. The Mighty Shadows approached this match on the crest of a slump following last week's efforts.

12 minutes in and Alex caught a fine edge from just inside the D that went in off the far post, 1-0.

Defensive shorts were discussed prior to the game and it was decided they're probably not what has got us in to second position in the league. We decided to adopt the status quo for this game - Step 1: Mike gets hit very hard on his new titanium foot, Step 2: Inane noise, Step 3: Runner 1 overshoots the hitter, Step 4: 2nd runner admires the stick-work of the oppo, Anyway, 1-1 and we restart.

A vulnerable 10 minutes followed and we were caught on the break. A first time slap shot from a square pass sees the ball end up in the top-corner and it's 1-2.

The Shadows finished the half strongly with a good period of sustained pressure. Alex cleverly struck the top third of the ball to cause a bobble which deceived the keeper and ended up in the back of the net - 2-2.

The second half began with a rousing shout from Woody, "COME ON GIRRRRLS..." His intention was Guildford / Lads but the result was somewhere in between.

The second half performance was blistering and almost immediately, following some good work from Lewis, the ball bounced waist-high on the P-Spot and Ben G leathered it home with a pull-shot, 3-2 and the Shadows were back on top.

A couple of shorts were won, in particular, Leon had a nice stumble where he found himself face grating his way over the base-line.

Following the short a shot from close range was well saved, Ady gathered the rebound - shot saved by the last small piece of Leon left on the Keeper's pads, Ady was first again to the rebound and finished with a composed low reverse shot. 4-2 and playing some of the best hockey of the Season.

The 5th came following excellent wing-play down the right and Ben G finished from close range. Alex got his hat-trick by picking a switch round the back and in a tense one-on-one rounded the keeper, a nice piece of skill for any young kids watching, he fired home from the tightest of angles 6-2.

A cracking second half team performance displaying some of the best the Shadows have had to offer this season, justification indeed for their place in the league – 1 point behind 1st with three games to play.

Thanks very much to George for umpiring what was a heated game at times.

Guildford 4s	1	Sunbury	2
Pilgrims	0	Basingstoke	4
Gondoliers	7	Poly	0

A rather surprising scoreline against one of the better sides in the league. After an evenly matched start, Angus Frew scored a fine individual goal to set things rolling and others joined to make it one of the Gondos highest scores for some time. In defence, the Gordon family and some tight marking by Chris Gould kept the rather

younger Poly forwards at bay. In attack, Chris Belshaw was at his sprightliest, scoring twice.

Ladies Reports

Guildford 1s 4 (Average 2, Jess 1 and Kath 1) v Purley Walcountians 1s 0

After a lovely scenic tour round Surrey through some winding country lanes and past sites such as RAF Headley and Epsom Racecourse, Guildford arrived in good spirits. A 30 minute delay to the start time gave us plenty of time to prepare as Richard gave us another motivating team talk. Sadly, we missed Sam's renditions of Disney musicals so we passed the time keeping warm in the bar instead before we were ready to warm up. Kit led the warm up ensuring that despite the lengthy delay our heads were in 'hockey' mode ready for the start!

Guildford seemed to really enjoy this game and everyone got stuck in! Sals distributed the ball well particularly down the channels to the forwards and Kit & Katie really dominated the midfield making some good tackles and putting a great deal of pressure on the Purley midfield. When Purley did get through, they were met by a solid Guildford defence with Emily and Genie making some great interceptions and tackles and Jane B stepping seamlessly in to help us out (thank you). Tappy was on form, having a fantastic game and making some excellent saves at crucial times to help keep Purley's heads down and allowing Guildford to put the pressure on again!

Up at the front, Jess & Average made some excellent steals from the Purley midfield and defence creating many goal-scoring opportunities and gaining some short corners! It wasn't long before Average opened up the scoring tally and Jess swiftly made it 2-0 at half time.

The wing halves were instrumental throughout as Kath, Laura and Hannah made some great runs. They really came into their own in the second half as Purley tried going wide to get through and were met time and again by the press and regularly overturned allowing Guildford to push up again. Kath put our third goal away with great determination and Average made it 4-0 with a great deflection at the post on a short corner strike from Kit.

A great result this week! Everyone played really well and we're looking forward to continuing the theme next week!

Man of the match: Average (jug avoidance!)

Parp: Jo (for the lovely Surrey tour)

Guildford 2nd 3 Merton 1

Well today I have two pieces of good news to share with you all. The first piece of great news is the fact that Stringers boyfriend of 5 years finally popped the question...

So from the entire team Claire & Stu... CONGRATULATIONS!!

The second piece of great news is that we beat Merton 3-1 this weekend. Merton - the game we had all been looking forward to. Earlier on this season we drew against Merton at home in a challenging and aggressive great match. So all of us were pumped up and ready to go for Saturdays game having awaited the re-match for a few months.

And once again a hard and aggressive match it was! Guildford played some really great hockey having taken on board all of the things we have been practicing at training, and it definitely paid off. The team spirit was good, and there was definite cohesion going on within the ranks.

Jo Frack played brilliantly making loads of great runs up the pitch... and indeed she gets not only MOM (or Snackorette as its now going to be called!) this week but also she is claiming the assist for Judiths great goal in the first half!

After this goal (1-0) we let our guard slip and allowed Merton to get an equaliser from a short corner, but this didn't last long as in the 2nd half Guildford went on to score two goals in a relatively short space of time!

These two goals came from Shakira, when Abi worked hard and then slipped it into Shakira to finish off. Shakira wanted to repay the favour so she allowed herself to get hacked by the opposition just outside of the D and won a short corner, which Abi kindly scored from!

So overall a great weekend for the 2's this week. A brilliant well deserved win!

Snackorette of the week = Jo Frack (see above!)

TFC = Sals for leaving the kit bag behind (but personally I think it was stolen by Colesy!)

Guildford 3's 1 (Gobby) Richmond 0

Ali, Gobby, Kathryn, Tricky, Kate, George, Manchie, Helen C, Helen T, Phyzz, Katy, Kirsten, Jo

Firstly although I rightly deserved dick of the day may I say in my defense that I also scored the winning goal. The first 20 minutes were some of the best hockey we have played with a fast tempo and great passes. We had a number of short corners with our varied routines working really well ,one of which was a straight strike from me deflected into the top right by one of their defenders. We almost scored on a couple of others but couldn't find net. The first half we were all over them and they did not even get into our D. The second half they seemed to have woken up a bit and started to push forward, but with great marking and skills combined, the mids and defence again did not allow them even one shot on goal. The closest that they got was when I hit a 16 yard hit across our D, encouraged by Dom, only to top it and give it straight to one of their players. Kirsten was happy though as it meant that she got to touch the ball.....once.

the second half was more of a battle with Richmond coming back hard. We managed to hold them off though and continued to have the majority of our tie in our

attacking half. It was a great game with us keeping another clean sheet.

Still joint top of the league.....

MOM - Jo

DOD- Gobby

Guildford Ladies 4XI 4 Byfleet Ramblers 2XI 1

Team: Katy, Ruth, Fiona M, Harriet, Karina, Louisa, Ellie R, Maggs, Eleanor, Katie G, Fi, Fin, Aisling and Nadine

We ended up with 14 players which is more than enough, but only thanks to Louisa and Harriet scooting over to Woking after there A Level PE assessment match at school, which finished at the same time our match started and also to Maggs who joined us on the pitch risking her knee in a bid to get us some much needed goal difference.

It's tight at the top of our league and we know goal difference could be all that's in it on 5th April and playing the bottom of our league was a chance to capitalise. But with only 11 players at the start of Saturday morning I was more concerned with winning let alone achieving a large goal difference. Depleted forces because of groin injuries, ski trips and work commitments meant we were all going to have to work hard this weekend, except it didn't happen for the first half and it was like 'we were training and it didn't matter'! But there were good moments and we kept a lot of pressure on Byfleet in the D, and had a lot of mad moments that came to nothing. Thankfully one mad moment led to a goal, assisted by Karina, Nadine managed to put the ball through the keepers feet, we all breathed a sigh of relief but that was the only goal in the first half. We were fairly concerned as we beat them 7-1 the first time round – what was going on!

The message at half time was more effort please girls, we were not playing the way we normally do! And we did, we seemed to pull it together in the second half and doubled our work rate. Boosted by our extra players, there were three stunning goals from Fi, Katie and Louisa that the defence and goalie could do nothing about.

Next week top of the league London Ed's (but only by one point) this could be our chance! Support VERY welcome 4pm on the sand base at home!

Guildford Fireflies 5 Teddington 2

Welcome back Freda! We had a strong team out this week with the usual suspects and a bit of extra help from Jo and Phyzz. However, we still had to let Teddington score first before we got our act together and started playing as if we wanted to win! Our first goal came from Hazel with a mighty short corner strike. Soon after, we were awarded a penalty flick when a defender stopped the ball on the line with her leg. Mel stepped up to convert and performed the usual celebration as we went 2 – 1 up. Just before half time, Rusty lobbed the defence and the keeper to make it 3 – 1 in our favour. Teddington started to get a little rattled and Shevs was told to f*** o** when she went in for a tackle! Hazel was then pole-axed by the same young player who spent the rest of the game intimidating the Guildford defence with ear-splitting screeches every time any of us went near her! Best form of defence is attack so we sent the ball down the other end for Emma to make it 4 – 1. On their next attack a

Teddington player swiped at the ball and completely missed it, also narrowly missing Mel's nose, but instead of getting a free hit, play went on and they scored another goal. We were starting to tire and kept asking the umpire how much longer until Emma scored another to make the final score 5 – 2. Well played girls! Thanks to George for umpiring the first half and to Jo and Phyzz for their input. Next week we combine with the 3rd X1 for the long awaited game on grass at Burnham! I think it must be Emma's turn for the match report!

Colts Report

Guildford Boys Under 18 vs East Grinstead. Lost 1-2 (L Cox)

EG's are sitting pretty at the top of the league, but this afternoon we ran them very close indeed. In fact if we had made more of a couple of first half chances before they had scored things may have been very different.

The early stages of the game were honours even although EG's were showing plenty of skill and obviously had some very good players. When we played our best, quick passing and movement hockey we were more than a match for them.

Defences were on top in this game and play flowed rapidly from end to end as both sides looked for an opening. Mid way through the half EG opened the scoring with a direct strike at a shortie. 0-1 to them at HT.

Early in the second half EG's went 0-2 up when the umpire didn't spot the series of fouls all our defence thought they saw, and while waiting for the whistle to blow they sneaked in to score. Aaah!!!

We then had our best passage of play and had lots of good possession and a number of shorties one of which was nicely taken off the line by EG defender.

Although we had most of the territory EG's continued to look very dangerous on the break and Cox was called upon to make a number of excellent saves. We pulled one back when Boersma dispossessed a defender in their d and from the loose ball Sharples's shot was deflected past the keeper by Cox.

Chances continued to fall at both ends but unfortunately we couldn't get the equaliser.

As always great support from the parents, thanks Rolf and thanks to EG's for feeding the hungry boys after the game.

Crucial game next week, see you then.