



GUILDFORD HOCKEY CLUB

In Touch

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This newsletter will also be published on the web-site

National League win for the Men 3 - 1 over Sheffield UB brings out happiness and a new song. (see report) .

Congratulations to Ladies 3s in joining Shadows on gaining promotion.

Successful Surrey Ladies Vets tournament run over weekend.

Monday night men's training has now finished.

Club and Awards Dinner will be on 19th April; book now with your captains.

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

Men's fixtures for next two weeks

March 29th 2 nd	East Grinstead	A
March 30th 1 st	Chelmsford	A
April 6th 1 st	Brooklands MU	A

Ladies Fixtures for next two weeks.

Mar 22nd

1 st	Wycombe Rye	F	H	1200
2 nd				
3 rd	GHC 4 th	F	H	1030
4 th	GHC 3 rd	F	H	1030
5 th				

Mar 29th

1 st	Staines	F	A	
2 nd	Spencer	L	H	1030
3 rd	O Ks	L	H	1200
4 th	Woking	L	H	1400
5 th	Basingstoke	F	H	1330

Mens Reports

National league – Div 1

Guildford 3 (Fordham, Griffin 2) Sheffield University Bankers 1

It was a lovely typical English day in Guildford, wet & overcast!!!! But as the lights over headed up & the water glistened on the pitch, there was a hint of something special in the air. At 5pm the balcony was packed and the stage was set for a bottom of the table clash between to teams fighting for respect and the valuable 3 points in the race to avoid the wooden spoon.

Morris delivered the team talk and expressed the importance of this match; a win would result in moving 2 places up the ladder & allow us to finish off the season on a high. However the game didn't start as planned & the recent good form we had been showing over the last couple of weeks had seemed to slip away, but determined to deliver The Guildford Faithful it's first home win of the season we battled on.

25mins in a promising run from 'Hard Man' (Richard 'Snowy' Julian) resulted in the first short corner of the game. An Adam Beer drag flick beating the keeper only to be saved on the line. From nowhere, Fordham with his cheetah like speed & classy poise pounced on the rebound blasted the ball & the unlucky defender into the net for Guildford's first.

Sheffield were not finished yet, determined to get points they capitalised from a Guildford attack that was broken down in the midfield, on the brake away they slotted a back stick goal past Dov on his near post, they had levelled the scores in the space of 2mins. We were down but not out we battled out the rest of the first half and went into the break 1-1.

Some positive words from Coach Morris & a few pointers from team leaders Fordham & Usher We set about our ways a little different in the second half the passes started to flow & we started linking up with each other, the good form from recent weeks started to creep back in to our game.

Young Gun Ed 'little Hosky' Sutton set up Guildford's 2nd goal with a skilful run down the right hand side, his pass across the top of the D was met with a first time strike by Griffin that rocketed into the back of the net. 2-1 to Guildford and there was no looking back from there, we started to dictate the terms & had several attacking moves that resulted in near misses. It was these near misses nearly brought us unstuck as Sheffield were unlucky not to get a couple of short corners from some promising play.

The win was sealed when 'Hard Man' broke through the defensive line with some flashy skills, he's run took him out wide & unselfishly fired the ball to the far post where Griffin was eagerly waiting to put in his second. A special mention must go out to Chavy (Jason Ward-horner) & Batch (Chris Batchular) who had outstanding games.

Thank you to all of you who turn up week in week out to support us, your efforts this season have not gone un-noticed; finally we have given you all something to cheer about, here's to the start of something special, COME ON THE FORD!!!

Oh, for those of you who missed the new 'Guildford Club Team Song' (to be sung after each win) being performed by the two Aussies, here are the words. I'm sure they will be more than happy to perform for you all.

Guildford Club Song:

Hearts to hearts and hands to hands,
Beneath the White and Maroon we stand.
We shout God bless our native land,
Guildford, Guildford.

Out they come, out they come, out they come to play,
Just for recreation sake to pass the time away.
Lots of fun, heaps of fun, enjoy yourself today,
The Guildford boys are hard to beat when they come out to play.

So join in the chorus and sing it one and all,
Join in the chorus, Guildford's on the ball.
Good old Guildford,
They're champions you'll agree
Guildford will be premiers, just you wait and see.

London league – Premier

Old Georgians 4 Guildford 2nd 1

Match reports – I guess you want to hear how we played, the story, the emotions, how the match unfolded. Unfortunately my fragile mental state sparks an inclination to don a white t-shirt Die Hard style and start shooting things. These are not emotions that help to coax the literal capabilities of good story telling. My humour

escapes me as I deal with the very real possibility of relegation should OG defeat or draw with Old Loughtonian's on March 29. On that same day, we have a match against East Grinstead to try and avoid relegation, whilst they themselves are chasing the league title.

So if you will permit I will tell you the facts – hard, cold, annoying facts. OG had a quality drag flicker; they won 8 short corners, converted 3. We won 7, converted 1. Their other goal coming from an inexcusably unmarked centre forward doing his job, and doing it well. OG had the majority control in the midfield and not because we were weak, just out-classed. In truth we lacked the potency to bounce back from being 2-1 down at half time.

We can't make excuses; we fought incredibly hard and would have died trying. Phil "Rhino" Harris and Tom Norman being the star players. Sure we made defensive mistakes and missed some chances upfront, some passes went astray and some tackles were not hard enough. OG was and is bottom of the table, but with the side we met on Saturday they should be contending for the title, not relegation.

MOM – The Rhino – Phil Harris.

With severely damaged fingers the Rhino made his presence felt and was the winner of MOM after a superb scissors-paper-stone playoff win over Greg who played relatively well in goal.

DOD – The Darke Lord... Timothy was found wanting on Saturday, having played very well over the last few games this performance was one to forget.

Guildford Shadows 7 – Addiscombe Men's 2s

Having drawn 2-2 with Leatherhead the previous week the Shadows were determined to put in a much better final performance against Addiscombe. Nothing was to be taken for granted though as the last time the Shadows met Addiscombe just before Christmas we only managed a very hard fought 1-0 victory.

Whilst the team used the warm up to shake off their car lag Dave T decided that a bit of retail therapy would be his answer to the long tiring journey up to Addiscombe. Deano meanwhile went off to make one last desperate attempt to find an umpire. With the game about to commence the team had managed to get their legs going, Dave T arrived looking very relaxed and Deano returned, still with the whistle in his hand.

Game on, and this is a quick commentary of how it went:

The forwards (Weeman) thoughts:

The goalies (Ben P) thoughts:

The umpires (Deano) thoughts:

1-0

"Ben G from open play receives a ball from Chaz, and I think he gets a shot-off but GK deflects it to a tight angle, and Ben pounces on it after 7 mins."

"Nice one guys, that was quick keep em coming..."

2-0

"Ben lobs the keeper to the far post and somehow I bundle it over chest-high after 15 mins."

"Eer, that looked very impressive, but...was that an arm?? I don't know. Their umpire

seems happy. They seem to have accepted it. Ok goal!"

3-0

"Free hit from Chaz into the D and Ady gets a nick on it for 3-0 after 20 mins."

"Oh good now the last one is a distant memory, but why is he complaining about a foot? Never mind there umpire has confirmed. Goal!"

4-0

"I get the ball out wide on the right and drive to the D finding Alex who turns and shoots home (on his reverse, can't remember) after 25 mins."

"Wow another goal. Oops I think I am supposed to be keeping the score times. Maybe there umpire is?"

5-0

"Another goal by Ben, is this one from a shorty routine with Alex?? Anyway let's say it is and 32 mins."

"Oh great someone is now bound to want to umpire the second half."

With half time looming the 5-0 score line was looking 'Very flattering' (Ben G) and summarized a fantastic first half for the Shadows where PERCENTAGES were impeccable. Lets also not forget the great P flick save by Ben P.

Half Time

After an upbeat half time team talk the confident Shadows took to the field determined to enjoy the last 35min of hockey this season. Deano still with the whistle in his hand.

5-1

"5-1....? Ben P to describe... 40 mins."

"Through ball to running right winger who escaped his marker – Steve – to get a touch on the through ball for a deflection goal."

"Mm a well taken goal. Actually I am really starting to get the hang of this."

6-1

"Short corner routine involving me and Ady. Ady pushes out short to me and I crack one near-post and he deflects it in high 42 mins."

"Ah, the perfect response to a goal at the other end."

6-2

"Ben P to describe... perhaps the annoying one between the legs?? 60 mins."

"Initial attacked cleared but only deflected to unmarked forward 7 yards out who did slot it between my legs."

"Is Ben P laughing and smiling about one that went between his legs? Very unusual. We did say we should try and have a little fun the second half."

7-2

Ben G feeds off a through ball from Ady and just manages to poke it past the onrushing keeper for his hat-trick after 65 mins.

"Now I make that about time but not too sure what time the second half commenced. Oh dear why has there umpire coming over to speak to me?"

So a great way to end a very successful season for the Shadows, a little down on the PERCENTAGES during the second half, but with a 7-2 goal line in the final game and having been promoted into league two everyone left the ground feeling on top of the world.

Well done the Shadows a just reward to a team where each and everyone one of you have worked incredibly hard and at times pushed yourselves to the absolute limit. A limit which we will look to increase next season.

Guildford 4th	2	Epsom	3
Pilgrims	1	Southampton	3

Ladies Reports

Guildford	5	Havant	0
Guildford 3s	1	Croydon	0

This week we were proud to walk onto the pitch in our new 'don't mess with us' sports jackets. Surely that would be enough to scare the opposition, but no, we showed them we really meant business by carrying out our well coordinated warm up routine to which the opposition could only look on with fear.

Without managing to shake off our trade mark slow start, the first 20 minutes couldn't really offer much more than a nice game. The tropical humidity of Croydon possibly made matters worse. Although slow paced for us, it was heard that it was fast pace for Croydon – the warm up had paid off! Guildford built up their possession of the ball which lead to 5 short corners in the first half. Attempts on (or near) goal were good but their keeper and quick defense could not be beaten. Guildford soon picked up their pace which saw some great passing, skill and determination. A succession of accurate passes including a pass across the D saw Kellet plant the ball in the goal. Croydon fought back, and were convinced they could pull something out of the bag. With a quick break their high attacker beat our defense. It was one on one with Kirsten. Kirsten made her third great save of the game (that's great, not average). The attacker determined to get a goal repeatedly struck the ball with power. Unfortunately the ball was between Kirsten's legs at the time. And just in case taking on a 6'foot goalie wasn't scary enough, the wayward attacker squared up to Slick, but short of nutting her Slick put her in her place. Way to go Slick. Well played 3's, you kept your heads and kept up the pressure during the second half to secure our win, and a special thanks to Sophie, Gini, Clare and Kellet for stepping in and being great.

Guildford 3's 1 (Kate Hall) Barnes Hounslow Ealing 5's 0 (8/3/08)

Guildford started with what some would argue as the best 20 minutes hockey we have played all season. We had an amazing air of confidence that enabled us to deliver fast, sharp passes with high levels of accuracy. Consistent strength from the defence allowed Guildford to push forward with some great deliveries to the forwards. Eventually, Kate was able to perform a fantastic finish, giving Guildford a goal.

After a bit of a 'black spot' in the second half Guildford kept on going, firing balls to the forwards. Unfortunately, there were no more goals for Guildford. Spirits were still

high with yet another 1-0 victory. On wards and upwards.....

MOM – Kate Hall

DOD – Freda for performing the only dive in the match by tripping over her own feet

Thanks to Dom, Mel, George, Murphy and Carter for the match support.

Surrey Ladies Veterans Tournament.

On Sunday we held the Surrey Ladies Veterans Tournament at Broadwater for the second year.

11 teams entered and we got off to a good start in our first match against Cheam winning 2 – 0 with goals from Genie and Julie. We had a rather long break before our next game, which was against last year's champions, Wimbledon. They scored two unstoppable goals and were then awarded a penalty flick after the ball came off the foot of one of their own players. It was difficult to get back into the right frame of mind for our next game which was against Tulse Hill. We lost 2 – 0 to them, then rushed to the sand pitch to play Maori Vamps. This was an even game which ended in a 0 – 0 draw. Our last game was against Epsom, the eventual winners, and although both teams had chances, it was Epsom who managed to score. Thank you to Sally for umpiring all our games and thank you to everyone who turned out to represent the Club on a cold, damp day, especially as there was quite a lot of help needed with serving the food and drinks. Finally a big thank you to Dave and Rohanna for the catering, and to George for a magnificent effort to keep the tournament running to time. The thank you's have been coming in thick and fast from all the other teams!