

in touch

the e-zine - from Guildford Hockey Club

2012/13 Season

Issue 09

21/11/12

Broadwater School, Summers Road, Farncombe, Godalming, Surrey GU7 3BW

email: intouch@guildfordhc.com web: www.guildfordhockey.co.uk/ twitter: [@guildfordhc](https://twitter.com/guildfordhc)

This newsletter will also be published on the web-site

Men's 1s win in Birmingham to go top of
Western Conference

Ladies 2s record 3rd win in a row and Gondoliers
back to winning ways

If you have a report or any other relevant article that you would
like to include, please email richard.julian@gmail.com

Current news:

GHC Christmas Party – Saturday 15th December



The party kicks off at **19:30** at the GHC clubhouse. Tickets are **£25.00** which includes a glass of bubbly on arrival and a three course Christmas dinner courtesy of GHC Legend Dave Hall.

Please speak to your captain to reserve a place.

GHC sponsors

You can see the current GHC sponsors at the end of this In Touch as well as at <http://guildfordhockey.co.uk/sponsor.html>

Please do take a look at them and feel free to use them! Remember to mention GHC if you do and you might even get a discount! For example, as the festive season approaches you might be looking for a Christmas party venue, buying some booze or booking a holiday – why not contact our sponsors, mention GHC and see if they can do it cheaper?

Banish the January blues with a
fun fundraising night for all GHC Colts' parents!

RACE NIGHT

- Saturday 26th January 2013 -
SAVE THE DATE

Buy a horse (race winners get a fabulous prize)
Bet on a race and **DOUBLE** your cash
More details to follow soon...



7.30pm in GHC Clubhouse - £10 per ticket includes meal

Chatter from the Chairman

Many thanks to everyone who has helped launch the new season to such good effect. There are many solid results being posted across the Club as the revised squads settle down to their pre-Christmas campaigns and encouraging signs from those who are finding it harder going. I know squad sizes have caused some anguish but we will keep them under regular review to maximise the amount of hockey everyone gets. Numbers in the Junior section have risen to around 400 with great enthusiasm and skill levels being shown across all the different age groups.

The new organisational structure as outlined at the AGM is bearing fruit although a couple of people have had to step down because of more pressing personal or business commitments; Martyn Apsley as Head of Commercial Operations and George Jackson as Ladies Captain/Fixture Secretary and we are looking at some further load balancing to help other people.

This leaves us with the following roles yet to be covered so if anyone would like to volunteer for them, please let myself or another Board member know (see following organisation chart):

- Head of Commercial Operations
- Ladies Captain
- Fixture Secretary
- Marketing/Communications
- Website Design & Maintenance (from the end of the season)
- CRB Liaison (from the end of the season)

Note that someone has expressed an interest in taking over Editorship of In Touch when Snowy moves abroad (more in due course).

Until the Head of Commercial Operations role is filled, the Club Secretary, Club Treasurer and Marketing roles will come under me; the Membership Secretaries and Welfare Officer under Tom Carney.

Everyone will realise that the Club is run for the benefit of its membership but our success will rely on each individual supporting their team Captain, supporting the social activities throughout the season and paying subscriptions and match fees promptly. A number of factors (eg no extra men's side, additional Clubhouse maintenance...) means that the budget surplus we had forecast for this year has already reduced to zero so if you haven't paid your subscription yet **please do so now** (details available from your Captain).

The Board are looking at a number of exciting new initiatives to improve your experience of being a member of Guildford Hockey Club but we cannot commit to these until we know the Club is on a sound financial footing.

GHC Organisation November 2012



* Vacancy for 2013/14 season

We have an exciting future ahead of us at GHC so please, embrace the opportunities available to you and help our drive for success and enjoyment.

Chris Basey

(chris.basey@btinternet.com)

FIXTURES

All of the Guildford Hockey Club fixtures are available through the following links:

MEN

Team	Role	Name/E-mail	Telephone	League	Link to results, tables and fixtures
1st XI	Manager	Tony Hall	01483 768832	National West Conference	1st XI
	Coach	Ian Jennings	07802 886000		
2nd XI	Captain	Tim Darke		London League Div 1	2nd XI
3rd XI	Captain	Tom Pollard		London League Div 2	3rd XI
Shadows	Captain	Steve Morris	07788 784143	Surrey Open Premier	Shadows XI
4th XI	Captain	James Parkin		Surrey Open Div 1	4th XI
Pilgrims	Captain	Mark Lenel		Wessex Masters Div 1	Men's Vets
Gondoliers	Captain	Andy Roberts	01483 271206	Wessex SuperVets	Men's SuperVets



www.englishockey.co.uk/page.asp?section=67

LADIES

Team	Captain/Email	Link to results, tables and fixtures
1st XI	Kate Hutchins	http://www.guildfordhockey.co.uk/ladies1.html
2nd XI	Tracey Henderson	http://www.guildfordhockey.co.uk/ladies2.html
3rd XI	Karen Faulkner	http://www.guildfordhockey.co.uk/ladies3.html
4th XI	Beth Fantastic	http://www.guildfordhockey.co.uk/ladies4.html
Fireflies	Clare Edgington	http://www.guildfordhockey.co.uk/fireflies.html

... also see The Surrey Hockey Association Ladies League www.surreyladieshockeyleague.co.uk

The latest 1st XI League Tables can also be reached via <http://www.southleague.org.uk>

MATCH REPORTS

Don't forget to send any match reports from the weekend to richard.julian@gmail.com by Tuesday evening.

MEN'S SECTION



Saturday 17th November 2012

Birmingham University 1 – 3 Guildford (Mullon, Haynes, Blockley)

Guildford travelled to Birmingham University on Saturday buoyed by the fact that last week's result against Cardiff had put them joint top of the Western Conference. However, the Midlands students have been something of a bogie team for the G's in recent years and all were aware of the challenge that faced them.



Midfield dynamo Paddy Harman

It was an enjoyable drive/flight up to the beautiful surroundings and pitches of the opposition and the weather stayed dry for the game's entirety. The team were filled with an extra fire to their bellies when Manager Tony 'T-Dog' Hall reminded the boys that it was his birthday on Monday and that they better win.

Tony's impact was evident immediately with Guildford commanding the majority of the possession and limiting Birmingham's known attacking ability. It was clearly frustrating the students as time and time again their normally penetrating attacks were thwarted by the likes

of Captain Falconer and Beardo the Destroyer. Coupled with this were the clever piercing balls played by schoolboy Chris Way, standing in for the absent Christian Kimber and the telepathic interplay of the midfielders. It was evident the away team had their tails up and rightly enjoying it.

The deadline was broken when overseas player Craig Mullon benefitted from some devastating right side play to break to the back post and finish off a flowing move. The ensuing 25 minutes saw the sides even up in terms of chances and ambition. Birmingham forced Guildford into making a number of crucial interceptions and were unlucky on several occasions not to have taken control of these opportunities, denied by a poor touch in the danger zone.

Guildford's continued hard work paid off again just before the break when top scorer Johnny Haynes latched onto a ball in the circle to take his tally to 5 goals for the season, a solid finish that was richly deserved for his endeavour.

Birmingham then missed a golden opportunity to squeeze one back when a wayward reverse pass was dealt poorly by the usually astute G defence with the Birmingham forward only to make a booboo and fluff his attempt.

Encouraged by the first half performance but aware of the need for continued pressure, the Gs started the second half brightly only to find themselves on the back foot following a flurry of Midland attacks and only thanks to the exceptional wingspan and feline reactions of keeper Simon Mason were the South East side able to maintain their lead.

Smooth criminal Billy Blockley then finished off a delightful right-sided move from close range to change the swing of the game and give Guildford a renewed confidence of their position. This lasted all of 5 minutes before the students forced a short corner that baffled Mace in nets to find its way into the goal. 3-1 on 52 minutes.



Goal scorer Will Blockley

The final third was a heated contest with both teams earning cards but Birmingham winning on the ill discipline front receiving 2 yellows for boisterous tackles that the umpires made clear were not to happen.

Despite the student's efforts to rile their opponents, the Gs stayed firm and held out for a very important win in the grand scheme of things.

Next week sees a crucial contest against in-form Whitchurch where a win would give some much needed momentum going into the mid-season break.

Guildford vs Whitchurch
Sunday 25th November
12:00pm Broadwater School

Pilgrims 1 - 7 Chichester Priory Park Friars

(Crombie)

I thought I'd take a business approach to this week's match report; a clear, objective SWOT assessment of our team's chances against a very good team from Chichester. And then a post-match reality check.

The dream	The reality
STRENGTHS	
Increasingly positive team morale	<u>Excellent</u> team morale, despite a pretty comprehensive shoeing
Lots of lovely availability (home matches, eh?) = lots of lovely substitutes	A lovely full team, last-minute fill-in from Chris Basey due to John Asdell's unfortunate last-minute absence
Better mutual understanding of our positioning on the pitch	Mass confusion about where the hell we're supposed to be playing when people go off injured; should have started with a 4-4-2 formation to begin with rather than change at half-time
Solid, experienced defending across the whole back line	Solid, experienced defending, some superb tackling and clearances; but a relentless wave of attacks & short-corners inevitably leading to goals for the oppo
Great skills & ability across the whole midfield	Great skills & ability across the whole midfield!
Cool, calm, collected, confident control of the game	Under pressure, quick to get frustrated with ourselves & chatback to the umpire rather than focussing on the game, resulting in 2 additional short corners.
A ruthless, heartless, cold-blooded instinct to score multiple goals	Too much honesty from the skipper announcing the use of his feet in scoring what would have been our opener
WEAKNESSES	
Lack of fitness?	Can't....breathe....
Lack of ability to string more than one or two short passes together	Ah, look at those lovely long balls flying up the pitch
Don't like the cold, damp, arthritic weather	Relphy's hamstrings
OPPORTUNITIES	
Chichester claiming to have difficulty raising a team	Chichester arrive with a full team, include members of their mens 2s
Martin Sampson joining us to score lots of goals	Martin Sampson joining us, but given few opportunities to score
Relphy rejoining us to manage the midfield	Relphy's hamstrings failing at half-time
A well-practised short-corner routine	Well, one out of three isn't bad...
THREATS	
Chichester have won 4 out of their 6 matches so far, each with a +5 goal difference	Chichester have now won 5 out of their 7 matches so far, each with a +5 goal difference

Gondoliers 3 - 0 Amersham & Chalfont Vets

(Jones 3)

In the time honoured tradition of the Gondoliers, Mike Jones began his preparations well over an hour before the game. Fortified by several pints of HBB's nutritionally balanced, calorie rich performance elixir, he finally emerged from his cocoon to find the rest of the team commencing battle against the warriors of Amersham.

Unnaturally flushed with a squad of twelve, Captain Roberts called over to check whether Jones was ready. To the bemusement of his teammates, he declined, returning to his Zen-like state on the sideline. There was no time to dwell on his response as Amersham pressed forward. Although Sturgess and Gould were carving opportunities through the opponent's defensive frailties, the final touch proved elusive.

It was Gould who spotted the potential on the sideline. Team player to the core, he took a dive to release the caged animal now pacing the length of the pitch. Sadly Gould got more than he bargained for. Never truly aware of the power of his reverse stick dummy, he telegraphed left, completely confused his opposite number and found himself flying through the air for a shoulder-first re-entry to ground level..... and the end of his game for the weekend.

As the half time break approached, another goalmouth advance presented a short corner opportunity. Flushed with the success of his previous week's conversion, Savage felt a less familiar tactic may unsettle the Amersham runners. Audaciously choosing to top his strike, he failed to make his teammates aware of his daring plan and another scoring chance fell away.

Frustrations were bubbling to the surface. The fearsome foursome of Hadley, Stokes, Tonks and Roberts continued to block Amersham's best endeavours and keep Gordon Minor's day restful but the scoreline at the other end of the pitch remained fat and round. It took a scramble in the D, a ball emerging from beneath the goalkeeper and a two foot goal line nudge from a suitably positioned Jones to break the deadlock.

Unhappy with Savage's second attempt at the topping short corner tactic, Carney called for a more traditional approach and finally a short corner melee resulted in Jones beating Hayley and Andrew Gordon to the final touch and a more comfortable margin for the Gondoliers.

As if in response to our travelling correspondent, David Stokes' insight into how the Bhutanese like to have a good time, Jones advanced his status from "on fire" to "potential self immolation". He closed off proceedings from a quick ball from the midfield and a blistering strike from the right of the D which the Amersham goalkeeper barely had time to blink at before the thud of ball on backboard echoed round the floodlit arena.

The Gondoliers retired to the clubhouse satisfied with their lot (back to winning ways after a disappointing previous three weeks) and keen to sample whatever it was that Mike Jones had had.

Cum licentia poetae.

LADIES' SECTION

Saturday 17th November 2012

Guildford Ladies 2s 3 – 1 Sunbury & Walton Hawks Ladies 1s

The ladies 2s took to the pitch this weekend off the back of two wins and were looking for another league victory which would move us up the table. This week we played Sunbury in a tough and very physical match. We started the game well welcoming Amy back to the fold and quickly dominated possession, like aubergines in a moussaka, winning a short corner which Kit put away putting us one nil up. Average soon made this two with an awesome goal moving the keeper and putting the ball in the back of the goal!

Going into half time we were keen to keep it strong and dominate in the second half, Sunbury got a goal back from a short corner and put a lot of pressure on our defence forcing Maddy to show her skills pulling off two fantastic saves keeping us in the lead. We worked really hard as a team and our pressure paid off when Kath scored in the last 10 minutes with what has to be our best goal of the season so far, with Kirsty playing a ball up the line to Lou with a touch to Average with a flick on to Kath which she put away nicely. Our boom celebration put the icing on the cake and we are now up to 4th level on points with 3rd. Bring on next weekend and another 3 points please - Chloe don't forget the cakes; Alice try to be on time and Kirsty remember lots of money for your fines.

Firefiles 2 - 5 Teddington (Genie & Kate W)

We were playing; I think our 5 league game on Sunday noon at Teddington.. On arrival, Teddington were already having their team briefing in the club house and this was only the start of their warm up.. All 16 of the Teddington team then when on match for the next stage of the warm up, for what felt like an hour or two maybe.. Wow, Guildford, 30 mins would be my aspiration, however I know 5 mins chat is a great start to the game too ;)

We were a full team of 12!!, with help from Kim and Pamela (thanks ladies and yes do join us again!!). We were all keen to play a skilled game against Teddington and ensure that we did Guildford proud, which I think generally we did a good job.

It was a hard game for both teams and end to end stuff.. Teddington scored first in I think the 4 mins of the game! Guildford at no point slowed down in their game and we agreed that Guildford had most of the play in their half, however just not completing the goals in the net was a our issue of the day.

There was a lot of great playing on pitch from karate kid through to Kirsten who she throwing herself across the D in a near goal opportunity. I have to say good effort and injury to show for this! Rusty too worked very hard down the right side, working her way through I think at least 40 players! Unfortunately at one point, taking a very lady like tumble on to her side (you need to eat more pies, then it will not hurt so much!!).

Good goals from both Kate W and Genie!! Edge nearly scoring a GREAT goal (similar to the Sweden goal against England) just the writers thoughts..

A couple of players on both side were carded during the game, of which both teams were not so sure on.. And objectively, I have to say as pitch captain, on this occasion completely unreasonable yellow card given and this definitely impacted the us and game in the last 20 mins.. I think it may have been the speed of our playing that and groaning loudly that surprise the umpire.. There you go..

Kirsten – The team hope Daisy does ok in her exams, even if she does ignore you!!

Sharon, we look forward to see you back soon

Game next week at home 1 Dec am game.. Please ensure you are there, as good warm up for on league game on 9 Dec against Woking – we will be having mince pies and mulled wine!!!

COLTS' SECTION

Sunday 18th November

Under 16 Girls

Guildford 5 – 0 Walton & Sunbury Hawks

We were at home for the first time this season and the first plus of the day was that we were taking preference over the boys to play on the water based pitch! Going into this game we were looking for a good performance following a rather convincing defeat against Trojans a couple of weeks ago. The warm up went well although I had to threaten the use of fines, for over exuberance on the self criticism – you guys know what I am talking about!!!

The game got off to a good start with Helena (captain for the day) making full use of the low sun by forcing Walton and Sunbury to play into sun for the first half! (where do these tactics come from??) We soon got into our stride and played a really good passing game and created a lot of breaks with Johanna and Annabel linking well on the right hand side. They were consistently getting behind the defence and Polly had a number of shots narrowly missing the goal. Eventually however, the breakthrough came with an attack from Annabel being deflected into the net by a Walton Player. We continued to dominate the half although Walton did counter on several occasions which were all dealt with by Hazel, Grace and Hannah efficiently. On each occasion this allowed Helena, Sophie and Jess to break up the middle and to feed to either the left or right. The second goal came soon after with Eloise finishing a scrappy goal mouth scramble. The third goal was an individual effort from Helena who brought an attack from our own half.

We started the second half in the same positive way although the first 5 minutes Walton threw everything at us and we struggled to get out of our half, Vicky made some good saves and eventually we were able to move forward again with Polly and Annabel making some great early runs that really stretched the opposition defence. We then found ourselves forcing nearly all of Walton's players in their own D and there were just too many bodies in the way of the ball finding the net. Once we brought the ball back and then the midfield fed the forwards the space was created for Polly to score two more goals. Throughout the game the one person not yet mentioned Becca, consistently broke down the Walton attack and she linked up with Helena and Jess really well. All in all a really good game that was enjoyed by everyone.

Well done girls, take this success to Havant next weekend.

Under 12 Boys Mavericks defy score line in Richmond

Guildford 1 – 5 Richmond

For those parents in attendance at an 11-a-side U12 v U14 match for the first time, the immediate difference in size was striking. But clearly, this did not intimidate the players!

Today's team included Jack, Quinn, Ollie G, Johnny, Jake, Freddy, Ollie S, Elliot, Max, Jasper and Will (Fe), Toby and Johnny.

GHC got off to a credible start, holding their own with Max immediately showing some strength in shutting down the Richmond offence. An early short corner was shut down very convincingly. In the offence, some early attacking play from Freddy sent a signal to Richmond that this was not going to be a walk in the park with Jack also rising to the challenge with some spirited play and some great team passing all-round. GHC created some good chances but weren't quite able to finish off in the Richmond D. Jake was rarely challenged in the first 3rd but when he was, he was resolute. However, with a few early ominous challenges, Richmond did finally find the back of the net with a solid and accurate shot into the bottom left from the D line giving Richmond a 1:0 lead.

In the second third GHC had a great start putting immediate pressure on Richmond but it was evident that we were struggling to track back from our attacks simply because, due to their age and size, Richmond were covering more ground per stride. Despite this, GHC continued to hold their own and after earning a short corner, Quinn fed out to Freddie who immediately found Will who found delight in finding the back of Richmond's net making it 1:1. Ollie G neutralized a fast response as Richmond came back like hornets swarming the GHC net and as that pressure continued, Jake put in some fine saves. The pressure was relentless however and as we held strong in defense, a deflection under Quinn's stick made an already powerful shot unstoppable putting Richmond 2:1 up. In the final seconds of the second third, Freddie put in a fantastic cross which Jack almost got a stick to before the whistle. It could so easily have been 2:2 going into the final third!

At the start of the final third GHC really took the fight to the Richmond half with Freddy and the forwards putting immense pressure on the Richmond defense. However a Richmond short corner found their Number 21 who put in an impressive low drive into the bottom right which had Jake at full stretch and simply unable to make a save giving a more worrisome 3:1 score-line. Quinn immediately put in a fine long pass up the left teeing up a lot of activity in the Richmond D. Moments later, Will put in a long shot wide of right. GHC were good on the breakouts, creating momentum and chances but Richmond, covering the ground more quickly, shut these efforts down, particularly when GHC failed to pass the ball around. At the point at which we thought Richmond were not particularly good at finishing, they finished one of their attacking plays very well to put the score at 4:1. At this point, simple physical maturity was coming into play and as GHC understandably became more tired, this gave Richmond more space and time to finish. Richmond took advantage of this raising the score line to 5:1. Undeterred, Jack rallied with a great solo run and a superb pass to Jasper who wound up for a hit but tripped before connecting.

A 5:1 final score was a harsh summary for what was a very credible performance by GHC. The standard of hockey was evenly matched. Ultimately it was the biomechanics of longer limbs which gave Richmond better ground coverage which led to greater fatigue for GHC and then, inevitably, a more open door through which Richmond could, and did, take advantage.

Will deservedly got man of the match for some consistently intelligent play with two notable other candidates being Jack for the spirit that he showed from start to finish and Ollie G for his rock solid defense.


Well done boys! You really held your own and you certainly entertained your fans on the sideline.

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For now we hope you enjoy the game.....

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