



GUILDFORD HOCKEY CLUB

In Touch

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This newsletter will also be published on the web-site

Mens 1s topple top of League Exeter University and Ladies 1s retain 100% record.

Support ! Mens 1s against new top of league Old Georgians on Sunday 30th at Addlestone 1300. Ladies have entered South Indoor, round robin tournament on Dec 7th at Haslemere.

Get Partying

School Disco! November 29th

When? Sat 29th Nov, 7.30pm onwards

Where? The GHC club house @
Broadwater School

What? SCHOOL DISCO!! with extra-curricular party games, authentic school dinners & music lessons from DJ 'dances wiv wolves'!

How much? £3 for fancy dress, £5 non-fancy dress.

The ladies 1s will be providing 'school dinners' (nibbles & party food), decorating the school yard & organising games.

Xmas party – December 13th.

**Book now through your captains to avoid disappointment
£25 gives you bubbly, 3 courses, wine, music and £5 to the club.**

Club Fundraising

Do your Xmas on-line shopping through
www.easyfundraising.org.uk/guildfordhc. members have already raised
£93. Sign up now by visiting the above website.

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

website.

Men's fixtures for next two weeks

29th November

2 nd	Reading	H	1200
3 rd	Richmond	H	1400
Shadows	EUHC Gamblers	H	1230
4 th	Kenley	A	1315
5 th	Old Reigatians	H	1500
Pilgrims	Southampton	A	1500
Gondoliers	Poly	A	1430

30th November

1 st	Old Georgians	A	1300
6 th December			
2 nd	Southgate	A	1200
3 rd	Soutgate	A	1500
Shadows`	Sanderstead	A	1300
4 th	Epsom	H	1230
5 th	Sanderstead	A	1445
Pilgrims	Winchester	H	1500
Gondoliers	Reading	H	1400

Ladies Fixtures for next two weeks.

29th November

1 st	Basingstoke	L	A	1145
2 nd	Old Kingstonians	L	H	1330
3 rd	UCL Academicals	L	A	1600
4 th	Croydon	L	A	1200
5 th	Surbiton	L	H	1530

Fireflies

6TH December

1 st	Eastbourne	L	H	1200
2 nd	Tulse Hill & D	L	A	1100
3 rd	Richmond	L	H	1330
4 th	Uni of Surrey	L	H	1100
5 th	Adiscombe	F	H	1530
Fireflies	Burnham Ves	F	H	1630

Mens Reports

Guildford 1 Exeter Uni 0 (Emery)

A chilly November morning saw us host league leaders Exeter University. We were expecting a challenge that some might say never materialised. Early doors we recognised that not only could we compete with this team but that we could beat them! We did. 1-0. We defended like tigers and after scoring shut up shop.

Three wins on the trot probably puts us in the top half of the league but we don't look at the table so I'm not sure.

Mike Rippon and Snowy did their best to even up the game by getting sent off but Exeter University had nothing to bring to the party. The same could be said for some of the team at the Dog and Pheasant after the game. Dave - you can bill Chris Rawlings for the carpet!

Guildford 2s 1 Richmond 2s 1

Guildford 2s 1 Old Georgians 2 (15/11/08)

After an improved performance the week before in the 2-1 defeat at the hands of Spencer, the 2s went into the local derby with Old Georgians with renewed confidence that 3 points was definitely on the cards. The fact OGs only turned up with 9 men would surely only serve to further confidence, and victory seemed like it was only 70 minutes away.

This however, could not have been further from the case, as Guildford spluttered their way through the first period of the game, their own goal more threatened than OGs. Georgians played very sensibly, sitting deep, waiting for Guildford to turn over the ball as they tried to crash it through, often giving the opportunity to OGs to lob the ball over the top of Guildford's very high midfield and sweeper, and hit the backs on the break, often finding a way one-on-one with the keeper. Then about 10 minutes in, OGs were up to full strength, and again, when Guildford failed to recognise the aerial threat, they were hit over the top and this time one on one, the forwards slipped it through Deeley in the Guildford goal who was caught in two minds as to where the forward was going to put the ball. The pattern of play continued for the rest of the half, with Mark Williams and Sean Percy failing to penetrate up front.

As half time loomed, Guildford won a short corner, which they failed to convert and as the players walked over to the dugouts, Percy stupidly got himself sin binned for swearing at the Umpire, meaning Guildford would start the second half with 10. Half time brought strong words from manager and players alike, one player citing a lack of pride from some of the team, and if truth be told it was probably players' decision making that was lacking, not pride.

And decision making was to continue to be a theme in the second half, with OGs down to 10 because of injury, Guildford had so much time in possession, and when receiving the ball players didn't look like they knew what they were going to do with it when they got it, giving the undermanned OGs time to reposition and set themselves happy for Guildford to waste as much of their own time as they wanted. This said, OGs were not without threat, and as Guildford pushed looking for the equaliser, they continued to hit Guildford on the break, winning several Penalty Corners. And it was from one of these they got their second goal, having failed when going for the

corners or switching it, their drag flicker went for power down the middle and was fortunate to wrong foot Deeley who didn't get the right angle with his hand and deflected the ball into his own net.

To win the game now, Guildford would have to do what they'd failed to do all season, and score 3 times. Only now did there seem to be any urgency, almost when it was too late to do anything about it did Guildford managed to find another gear, pressuring OGs and running their now very tired front players all over the shop. Henry, Matt and Adam who at various points in the game were playing at left and right back were some of Guildford's better players, and when they got in round the back of OGs, Guildford looked at their most dangerous. As the half wore on, Guildford won a short corner of their own, and bizarrely, they scored as Percy didn't quite catch his drag flick properly, sending it straight down the middle, and through the legs of a flat footed OGs keeper – probably half asleep having not really done much all game.

The last few minutes saw a frantic Guildford desperately chasing for the equaliser, but the inability to score that has haunted them all season, was to be their undoing, and the game actually ended with an OGs short corner as Guildford fluffed an attempt to get the ball moving quickly off a 16.

Full time and a 2-1 defeat for the second week in a row. The 2s travel to Richmond next week still looking for their first league win, and although we say it every week, this really is a must win game.

On a brighter note, DOD was a hard fought contest between the Lavis Brothers, with Paul winning out after losing to Simon on the Rock Paper Scissors tiebreaker. Good to see the skipper leading by example

Guildford 3's 4 Richmond 2A's 2

12 strong and willing 3rd team players made the journey to Chiswick to continue the run of results. Things started badly as we intended to get to their club house to watch the England rugby game, however they do not have sky at their clubhouse.....not a good start. We then spend 20 minutes driving around trying to find a pub in Richmond that was showing it, this proved way more difficult than expected, however we did get the chance to be de-motivated by a less than impressive performance by the new look England rugby team. So onto more important matters. 4.30pm start and it was a little on the nipple pointing side. The game started badly and it was a return to old 3's ways hit by an early goal. However this team is made of stronger stuff than that and within 5 minutes was back on level teams from a short corner that eventually ended on the P spot for Bungle to stroke home. Now when we pass it round we look very good and funnily enough when we keep the ball they cannot score. This sustained good play was rewarded by a goal at the far post by Ali from a nice break in midfield. The half ended however with one back for Richmond from a short corner. The Captain had to leave the field of battle at half time due to the continued hammy problem, though the comment was made that this injury could have been brought on by the two good looking ladies that had come to support us today, this was denied obviously. So the second half started 2-2 and Richmond came hard and we were under the hammer for 15 minutes, then we came to life again and from a lovely passage of play a very slick goal was slotted home by Ben Gray. This

was then followed up by a drag flick by Richey E. 4-2 with 12minutes to go, now we have been here before and let it slip. Hearts were in mouths as a short corner led to a foot on the line which led to a flick being awarded to Richmond. David our irritant cretin twit of a keeper again stepped up and nailed the save, and from that point on the result was not in any doubt. So it continues. Brilliant work boys, what is really noticeable is we are all working for each other.

M of M – Ben Ward

Shadows (no game)

Guildford 4s 2 Croydon 5

Hockey is supposed to be fun! Getting up at 7.30am when its freezing outside and having to drive to Croydon is not my idea of fun!!

We scored 2, they scored 5!

And that's all I have to say about that!

Guildford 5s 4 Old Mid Whitgiftians 1

Pilgrims 8 Andover 2 (Wylie 3, Morris 2, Howells 2, Gilliver)

Andover came to Broadwater as firm favourites and sitting top of the league. How come the side who lost at Bournemouth managed this then. Simple reason - it wasn't the same side - with Rosoman returning from injury and Morris and D'Mello returning from whatever we had one of our strongest sides for a while. I think that Andover were also a number of their first choice short!

Early moments showed why they were at the top of the league when the returning HP twice pulled great saves out of their goalie. However when Morris put our first shortie through the goalies legs we were on a roll.

Glad to say that goals game at regular intervals, we missed a couple but hey-ho. Dom was busy in midfield, as always, and with Gordon sniffing around the goal, Basey and Morris solid at the back we were in for a profitable afternoon.

Good to see HP back on the pitch having got injured falling off a rubber ring on a summer holiday jaunt!! Hope he's all OK for next week, Adrian get your magic fingers out!!

See you all in Southampton.

Gondoliers 2 Oxted 1 (Jones, Stokes)

Against an enthusiastic Oxted side, Gondoliers put on an almost disciplined display to notch a narrow victory. Play went from end to end but both defences held out well till goals were scored at either end from short corners, Turn round at 1 -1, Gondos scored again from a well worked corner (Carney and Stokes collaboration) and then held out to keep the victory intact.

Ladies Reports

Guildford 4 (Sam, Sally, Alice x 2) Horsham 0

This game was always going to be a tough match, no match against Horsham is ever easy, but with Jenno watching us for the first time a few nerves were evident in the Guildford dressing room. Chip filled in for Good Cop (perhaps to be re-named "Squeaky"?) and gave us a very positive team talk and after watching the men's 1's win a tight match we went onto the pitch determined to give a good account of ourselves.

Horsham started strongly, winning a reasonable amount of possession but right from the off there only looked like one team who were going to win it.

Chip, Sam & Alice ran the midfield, driving forward at will and breaking down any Horsham attacks. Jade ran riot on the right flank drawing some good saves from the Horsham keeper and Kerry, Lucy & Average took it in turns to try to creep in at the back post & score. But Horsham kept us out for almost 20mins and started to look like they were gaining confidence from not leaking a goal.

It felt to the spectator in goal (me) that it was inevitable that we would score and the breakthrough came from a loose ball in the D chased down by Guildford. The keeper was drawn and the ball smartly pulled back for Sam to score to celebrate her birthday.

Within 2 mins we had made it 2 nil. This time a short corner went to plan with Sally bravely deflecting the ball into the roof of the net on the post. And five minutes later it was 3 nil with Alice remembering her goal scoring touch to bury another short. Whilst 3 nil up at half time is a good score line we were disappointed that we hadn't scored more. Horsham had not had one shot or even really broken over our 25. But Jenno gave a reassuring team talk and sent us out in the second half to try to put into practice a few things we have been doing in training.

The second half performance was not our best it has to be said. Whilst we continued to run the game and Tappy was left with nothing to do all match, the passing and movement did not quite come off for Guildford.

We pressed and hurried the Horsham defence and drew more good saves from their keeper but we lacked a little bit of something.

Alice did bring some cheer to the second half by doing a now traditional run with 43 ball bodies, she whizzed round the top of the D and put a reverse stick shot against the post...which rebounded into the back of the goal keeper and into the net! And so it finished.

Another win, another clean sheet...and another list of things to work on improving in training! It's going to be a long week.

Thank you once again to all our supporters and to the guys for staying to watch, it's much appreciated.

Congratulations to M.o.t.M – Chip – for her all round good play in defence and attack. Commiserations to D.o.t.Day – Kerry – for forgetting the man of the match trophy.

Guildford Ladies 2s 2 Old Cranleighans 1

Guildford Ladies 3's 1 Camberley & Farnborough 2's 0

A great result from the 3's this weekend and with Spencer being defeated means that we are now top of division 4!!!

The 3's arrived at the pitch nice and early, warming up (with some odd dancing) to Cas's iPod, with no oppo in sight we were starting to wonder if we would play at all. Luckily they did show up and the game got underway. Now I have to apologise here as I get too excited and can never remember what happens during a game, but I can report that there were some excellent passes, all accurate and with pace which the oppo just did not know how to deal with. We were running rings around them. Every time we got bogged down we switched it around the back making C&F work hard. All the hard work eventually paid off with a great goal from Morris after a sprint down the left wing.

C&F tried to come back at us but the back 4 and especially Sophie put in some great tackles & saves and kept denying them any real chances. Slick & I thinking that the game was far too easy decided to miss a few hits and give the ball away to the oppo in slightly dangerous positions. These "miss hits" were deemed as toilet passes (probably quite rightly) by our esteemed coach on the side lines! Guildford in the end were just too strong and held off C&F for a resounding win. Well done ladies

MOM: Jo Newman

DOD: Me (Gobby) although it was a close run thing with Slick!!!

Guildford Ladies 4s 0 Surbiton Ladies 5s 2

We were a bit apprehensive about this game as Surbiton were currently at the top of the table (although this does seem to change every week in our division!) but we had managed a 3-3 draw in a friendly with them a few weeks ago. Chelle put us through our paces during the warm-up but it was a bit of a rushed start to the match, as we had to start bang on time to accommodate the men's 1s. We seemed a bit sleepy in the first half (it was a 10am pushback) but generally it was quite an open game and Surbiton were lucky to go ahead after 20 minutes. Maggs gave us some words of wisdom at half-time before rushing off to go to the 5s game but the second half didn't seem to get much better! We were on the receiving end of a number of questionable umpiring decisions (3 wrongly awarded short-corners in a row, in my opinion!) but we were able to scramble the ball out somehow, with Ruth saving our bacon as she does every week. Anna played really well throughout the game, especially as she was out of position as sweeper. We had some better attacking moments in the second half but Surbiton seemed able to break us down easily and we were

punished for holding onto the ball too long. I genuinely thought that we were going to claw back a draw but Surbiton finished us off a few minutes from the end with a cracking goal from one of their forwards. Next week, we have another tough game so please all try to make training if you can so we can be prepared.

Man of the Match goes to Kath Morris, who just ran and ran and ran...!

Guildford Ladies 5s 3 Leatherhead 1

Fireflies 3 Maori Vamps 3 (Shevs, Edge, Jules)

Having not played last week, we looked a little slow off the mark to start with and gave the ball away a little too often. Maori took the lead after about 10 minutes when one of their players was allowed to sneak through our defence. Before too long another defensive error led to a second goal being conceded. However, we then got a grip on the game and after some good attacking play Shevs managed to deflect a ball over the keeper's head. We had several short corners awarded and Edge stepped up to strike, finding a gap in the Maori defence.

2 – 2 at half time and everything to play for. For the second half we resolved to be first to the ball and stop passing to red shirts! With some degree of success it looked as though the game would end on level terms. Both teams had several scoring opportunities, and although Maori went ahead, Jules cracked one in to put us level again. There were a few frantic minutes of end to end hockey as we approached the final whistle and either team could have snatched a winning goal, but a draw was a fair result and we all adjourned to the nice, cosy clubhouse for a warming plate of curry.

Thank you to Martin for umpiring.

Colts Report