



GUILDFORD HOCKEY CLUB

In Touch

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This newsletter will also be published on the web-site

Ladies 1s march on. Shadows and Pilgrims have goalfest.

Rumour has it that Gondoliers' sponsors make mystery guest appearance in Question of Sport on Friday.

Come along and join Sponsors, VPs and Friends of GHC at the Mens 1s home game vs Firebrands. 8th Feb at 12..

IMPORTANT: This half of season we share Saturdays with the Royal Grammar School; please ensure that all games start and finish on time.

Date for your diary; the big club and charity fundraising event The Row 2 Rome will take place on March 29th. This will be great fun, but to be successful for the club, every member needs to commit and take part. If you have not yet had details, your captain knows them. See Poster on Website and in Clubhouse.

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

Men's fixtures from Jan 24th

Jan 24th

2 nd	Hampstead & W	H	1230
3 rd	Hampstead & W	H	1230
Shadows	Barnes	A	1600
4 th	Cheam	H	1100

Pilgrims	Andover	A	1530
Gondoliers	Woking	A	

Jan 31st

2 nd	Surbiton	A	1430
3 rd	Hampstead & W	A	1200
Shadows	Old Mid Whitgiftians	H	1630
4 th	Surrey Old Boys	A	1130

Pilgrims	Bournemouth	H	1500
Gondoliers	Amersham & Chalfont	H	1600

Ladies Fixtures from Jan 24th

Jan 24th

1 st	Havant	L	H	1100
2 nd	Merton	L	A	1230
3 rd	Walton & W	L	H	930
4 th	Reigate Priory	L	A	Tba
5 th	Old Kingstonians	L	A	Tba
Fireflies	Burnham Vets	F	A	1400

Jan 31st

1 st	Brighton & H	L	H	1330
2 nd	Woking	L	A	1000
3 rd	Spencer	L	H	1300
4 th	London Edwardians	L	H	1430
5 th	Old Freemans	L	A	tba
Fireflies				

Mens Reports

Guildford 2nd 1 East Grinstead 12

Guildford 3rd 1 Tulse Hill & D 1

Shadows 7 Richmond 1

Determined to put the inconsistencies of the first half of the season behind them the Shadows put in an excellent performance against Richmond beating them 7-1.

With a full strength star studded side it was however very reassuring to see the more regular team members score most of the goals with Leon Shrewsbury scoring a hat trick and Daniel Burgess very unlucky to only come away with one. The other goals were shared between Chris Grey (2) and Jonny Dye (1).

Just as reassuring was the defence which (I think) never conceded a short corner, although did look a little vacant when Richmond scored their goal.

Three valuable points gained which will go a long way to help keep the Shadows up in their new league and with the Christmas cobwebs shaken off we will be looking for another good performance this weekend vs Barnes.

Guildford 4th 2 Woking 1 (Ishan, Tom Moody)

The Mighty 4's got back to winning ways on Saturday with a hard fought but deserved win at local rivals Woking. The demise of the 5th XI during the week led to a welcome influx of new players to the squad and a special mention must go to Tom Marks who played a very mature game at the back to keep the home side at bay. Guildford should really have led at the break but some poor finishing and a couple of un-effective short corners kept the scores level going into the second half. A rousing half-time team talk sent the team out feeling positive and Guildford began to take the game to Woking and after a number of chances took the lead when Ishan finished off a fantastically worked move down the right. This should have been a catalyst for a strong period for the visitors but it was the home side who came back into the game and finally grabbed a goal of their own when a firmly hit corner snuck under the otherwise brilliant Dave Burnside in goal. Both teams were now searching for the win but it was Guildford who took the points when Tom Moody flicked a penalty corner into the roof of the net, giving the keeper no chance. So a good win for the 4's and a massive thank you to the new players that made a huge difference to the team.

Pilgrims 6 Southampton 1

Gondoliers 3 Winchester Vets 0

Don't panic, don't panic was the cry from the Home dressing room as the brave 9 souls said, the others will turn up. The skipper was absent stricken by back pains from last week's game at Reading so there were no balls available.

Just in time the usual late comers came and with JB we had 12, balls were found so practice could commence. Lord Norman Vowles arrived to take his seat so the game could start. The Gondoliers played down hill in the first half and quickly dominated the game. R Austin Healy Gordon barked his advice from the back and had little less to do. The Gondoliers pressed hard but due to the slope the ball just seemed to run away and a number of good chances went begging. Nil all at half time, General Gordon could not take this and rose to a challenge with the Shadows.

Playing up hill in the second half the Gondoliers found the ball on the end of the stick and it was not running away. The first goal came soon after the re-start, from a free hit in the 25 and a shot at goal saw the Winchester keeper save it, the ball went to luscious legs Russell whose push went past the keeper along the line but not over it, where upon Timid Tim pushed the ball over the line, just.

Gondoliers kept up the pressure a Carney hit a cross from the right which Timid Tim met on the far post 2-0.

Opportunities continued the short corner machine was working but the shots went just wide, until a variation which JB struck, the keeper saved, luscious legs Russell this time dispatched his shot past the keeper, and over the line and it hit the back board.

Master Frew was awarded the Gondoliers Jug for his global efforts to diplomacy.

News of Commodore Pearse, now freed from the frozen waters of the Wey, he was seen on the campus, but not playing, he was retrieving a black plastic bin liner from

the boot of his car and was heard to say I will see you upstairs later, but mysteriously he did not appear, more next week at the Woking game.

Ladies Reports

Spencer 1

Guildford 4 (Jade, Alice x 2, Theika)

We knew going into this weekends game that Spencer were only side likely to run us close for the top spot so the game was more than just a “must win”, it was in a way, a title decider (even though it’s so early in the second half of the season).

After Christmas games become much tighter as you learn a little bit about how the opposition play and as Spencer were the hardest team we faced in the first half of the season so we knew the match would be a tight affair and we would have to take our opportunities when they arose.

Good Cop & Bad Cop did everything they could to prepare us for the game despite the dreadful winter weather (imaginary hockey should become a national sport – we are all so good at it we would be Internationals).

There were a few nerves on both sides, demonstrated by Spencer putting the ball off the sideline straight from their push back but after a few strong tackles from both teams’ things settled down. (Well, on the pitch at least – the Spencer supporters on the other hand seemed to be watching fireworks from all the ooo’s and aaaa’s!). Both sides enjoyed periods of pressure, with Guildford perhaps seeing more of the ball and having more chances but with Spencer counter attacking incisively sliding the ball in between our defensive line and causing a few nervous moments at the back.

First blood went to Guildford about 20 mins into the match when Jade went on a weaving run along the back line, drew the keeper into a partial save on the floor, and then showed plenty of calmness to twist and slot home.

However, the joy of taking the lead only lasted about a minute as Spencer drove down our left, quickly switched the right and found a player at the far post with her back to goal. Despite the Guildford defender marking so tightly that the player could not turn she still managed to hit the ball reverse stick which flew at speed past Tappys ear in goal.

This then prompted Guildford to treat the rest of the half like the January Sales where we felt so generous towards the opposition that we gave them the ball on the P spot from our own 16’s twice, plenty of short corners and a number of one on ones for Tappy to deal with. Fortunately, she wasn’t feeling as generous so stopped whatever they threw at her.

Needless to say a few things needed to be sorted out at half time, with Jenno pointing out a couple of areas for us to work on and sending us out with a positive frame of mind for the second half.

The Guildford midfield tightened up allowing Kate to clear up almost every attack with

some GREAT tackles, the defence felt less vulnerable and the attackers had some support when going forward. It began to look like one goal from Guildford would probably be enough so Jenno sent on Average so bring a little more pace to the front line. Within a couple of minutes of getting on she beat a player, drove along the back line, held the ball until Alice was in position then handed it to her on a plate. Alice duly obliged sending the ball into the net giving the keeper no chance. The relief was palpable and within a minute Guildford extended their lead, Alice again finishing a flowing move.

Spencer heads dropped at this and despite us trying to help them out by again giving them the ball repeatedly from our 16's they didn't manage to test Tappy at all in the second half. Meanwhile, another change up front for Guildford saw Theika move into the centre forward role and with her third touch swept the ball into the net from a re-bound.

Guildford (Chip) had another goal disallowed as we finished the game strongly, our fitness definitely showing through.

So all round a good result for Guildford, particularly as we didn't play well but still managed to win comfortably in the end. Our position at the top of the league looks formidable but it's a long way to go till the end of the season, we need a guard against complacency.

Still, it is nice to bask for a moment in the feeling of being top of the league. For those who don't know our league stats:

Played = 12, Won = 12, Goals For = 56, Goals Against = 5. This is the best defensive record in any of the South Leagues, the best attacking record in any of the South Leagues and more points already than we got in the whole of last season.

Bring on Havant!!!

Thank you once again to our hardy supporters who braved freezing temperatures to cheer us on.

Guildford 2 nd	2	Wimbledon	0
Guildford 3 rd	2	Wanderers	1
Guildford 4 th	2	Cheam	2
Guildford 5 th	3	Epsom	4

Colts Report