



GUILDFORD HOCKEY CLUB

In Touch

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This newsletter will also be published on the web-site

Both 1st XI s win over the weekend. Mens 2s revival continues.

Club Race Night Feb 20th – this weekend. Come along for this fun night.

GHC RACE NIGHT is back! **Sat 20th Feburary**, 7pm. £10 tickets including dinner.

Tell charliechip3@googlemail.com NOW you are coming, so we know numbers for Dinner.

Also you can buy, name and own your horse for just £5 a horse and be in with a good chance of winning a fantastic prize (see below).

There are 8 horses in each race, all we need to know is which race you want your horse in and name it. That simple folks!!

Money must be paid asap to Chip or Jade to prevent it from going lame or missing! You do not have to attend the event for your horse to win. However, shouting, cheering and encouraging your horse on the night most often produces a winner!! Horses selling FAST! To avoid disappointment please contact Jade or Chip now! (jd_steady@hotmail.com or charliechip3@googlemail.com)

- Race 1: Meal vouchers at The Squirrel
- Race 2: 6 months free gym membership at 'The Gym'
- Race 3: Douwe Egberts Coffee
- Race 4: Majestic Wine
- Race 5: Box Genesis - Free Personal Training Session
- Race 6: TBC
- Race 7: TBC

Latest news New Prize – Family ticket on LondonDuckTours.

GHC Russian Rowathon. March 28th. Let us repeat last years success for both club and the three new charities. Start getting sponsors for this important and fun day for the whole club. To help, you can set up on-line giving: set up your own page by going to <http://www.justgiving/guildfordhockeyclub/raisemoney> .

Fixtures for next two weeks.

Date	Team	Opposition	H/A	Venue	Time
Feb 20th	2 nd	Richmond	A		15.00

	3 rd	Richmond	H		12.00
	Shadows	NPL	H		14.00
	4 th	N/F			
	Pilgrims	N/F			
	Gondoliers	Epsom	H		15.00
Feb 21	1 st	Whitchurch	A		13.00
Feb27th	2 nd	Bromley & Beckenham	H		13.30
	3 rd	Bromley & Beckenham	A		15.30
	Shadows	Old Midwhitgiftians	A		
	4 th	Richmond	H		15.00
	Pilgrims	Haslemere	H		16.30
Feb 28th	Gondoliers	Haslemere	A		
	1 st	Bournville	H		12.00

Ladies Fixtures for next two weeks

Date	Team	Opposition	L or F	H/A	Venue	Time
20-Feb-10	1st	Eastcote 1's	L	H	Broadwater Water	13.30
"	2nd	Cheam 2's	F	A	Nonsuch School	13.00
"	3rd	Barnes Hounslow Ealing 3s	F	H	Broadwater Sand	12.30
"	4th	Fireflies	F	H	Broadwater Sand	14.30
"	FF	Guildford 4s	F	H	Broadwater Sand	14.30
27-Feb-10	1st	Henley 1's	L	A	Henley HC	11.45
"	2nd	Richmond 2's	L	H	Broadwater Sand	14.30
"	3rd	Wanderers 5's	L	A	TBC	TBC
"	4th	Reigate 3's	L	H	Broadwater Sand	16.00
"	FF	Maori Vamps	F	H	Broadwater Sand	13.00

Men's Reports

Guildford 2 University of Birmingham 1

After last week's frustrating draw at home against Stourport, we were keen to have a good game this week and put into effect the things we have practiced at training. The theme of the pre-match talks was 'hit them hard' which I think got everyone in the right frame of mind. The first ten minutes saw Guildford play high tempo hockey and press the university visitors, harassing them all over the park. The forward line in particular put in some serious hard work and as a result we gained a number of chances from turn over ball. However, despite creating numerous chances and being in the driving seat for most of the half, we failed to find the back of the net and slowly Birmingham started to get a bit more possession and have a few half chances. On the stroke of half time the visitors were awarded a dubious short corner and sod's law prevailed. Somehow we were 0-1 down at half time and Jenno's crutches were on the pitch. How did that happen?!

Into the dug outs and generally everything was positive about a good display so far and we were confident that if we continued to apply ourselves, the result would look after itself. More of the same and finally a couple of chances found the net. The first from a good run by Guy Fordham down the

right who picked out Will Blockley to sweep the ball home. The second was a signature Will Blockley drag flick. It must be mentioned that Will had a golden chance to get his hat-trick but he went for the Hollywood top corner finish and as a result, his wallet took a bashing after the game. Lesson learnt methinks. Speaking of fines, Mr. Henn who stepped in as Manager for today was notably absent from the session, I think he's got some making up to do!

Again, despite playing well and creating chances, we simply couldn't put the game to bed and the last few minutes were quite tense but fortunately we held on and secured the 3 points. No Scotland-esque capitulation for us, thank God. A great team effort this, Mace was on fire (mainly in the warm up), the defence were the epitome of calm and confidence (except for Darkie's crazy 5 minutes in the second half), the midfield put in some thumping tackles and demonstrated some text book ball and bodies and the forwards ran themselves into the ground. A good win and a performance that we will be able to build on in Cardiff next weekend against Whitchurch.

Guildford 2s 2 Indian Gymkhana 1

The 'Batch' report: Because no-one's match reports need editing quite like Batch's!

After an *inspirational* team talk by Max – that was about as easy to follow as Scully's Thursday night training sessions – Guildford headed out to the pitch. After a lack lustre warm up it was no wonder we were soon under a bit of pressure and trying a variety of passing and stopping techniques most of which were unsuccessful. This led to a couple of Indian Gym short corners that were stopped by Scully's lightning speed off the line (and Indian Gym's drag flickers raw slowness), another was dealt with by two cracking saves from Max that even had the umpire applauding. Guildford soon got back into the game with some great passing moves that led to Petty putting through Booty and Rawlings, who unfortunately couldn't find the target.

Unfortunately the good was still punctuated by the bad, with most members of the defence employing 'Dam Buster' style passing that went everywhere, often to the Indian Gym midfield. With Guildford started to take control as the first of many players for Indian Gym took a 10 min break, Petty struck with a trademark low and hard drag flick that was kindly deflected into the goal by the postman. But with minutes left in the first half, a loss of concentration in our 25 led to an equaliser that had everyone pointing fingers at everyone else.

Half time

All there is to report from the first 15 minutes of the second half is Chris Rawlings tantrum as the ball got played high into his knee and the free hit was awarded against him. The game started to open up again when Indian Gym got their 2nd yellow of the game and a few free flowing passing moves led to some opportunities on goal one with Petty rounding the keeper, but at such an acute angle he failed to find the back of the net. Booty and Gav showing off some fine skills to weave in and out of the Indian gym midfield and Alan and Richie just ploughing straight through, the game was starting to turn, and a deliberate foot by an Indian Gym player led to the 3rd yellow of the game. But soon after, Batch picked up his second yellow in as many games for something.

When both teams were up to full strength, Booty stuck home the winner, deflecting in a Petty pass to the far post off a penalty corner. With a few close calls towards the end and another Indian Gym short corner run down, Guildford saw the game out to a 2-1 victory and move within 2 points of 7th place. Woo almost mid table.

MOM: Batch (won a 3 way paper scissor stone)

DOD: Scully, for his reverse stick bouncing bomb pass to Relphy across our D

Tea Watch: A good curry, brave choice with Indian Gym visiting but was enjoyed by all.

News from the Twos: With six games to go before the end of the season, the Twos end of season bash has been pencilled into the diary's for Friday the 9th of April. This will require a double pink pass for some members of the squad, as this is the day before the club end of season awards. The Twos are looking for friendly opposition to play against on Saturday the 10th to bridge the gap between these two monumental occasions and make a real weekend of it. To the WAGs of Guildford 2nd XI, we apologise in advance.

Indian Gymkhana	3	Guildford 3s	1
Shadows	4	Croydon 1s	1
Guildford 4s	3	Camb & Farnborough 2s	2
Pilgrims	4	Portsmouth & Southsea. 5.	(Gray 3, Lenel)

Thankfully Portsmouth FC were playing away today so we were able to arrive at the ground in good time, I wonder if they have to pay a match fee. Probably good for their funds if they did and what is the match fee if you earn £50,000 per week!!! Replies by postcard to Mr Asdell please!

Having undertaken a rather chilly and quick shirt and short change on the pitch when we realised they were playing in white we were ready to start. Actually that is not true as we started very slowly and although we had the ball for the first 10 minutes we lacked urgency and pace. Oppo went ahead when a hit into the circle was cruelly deflected past our stand in keeper from the 4's. Andy thanks very much we really appreciated your help.

The Pilgrims midfield was rather outnumbered by the oppo and despite the sterling efforts of Bloxham who was more than a match for his opposite number the young Portsmouth midfield 4 began to take control. Elsewhere Rosoman had the beating of his full back and a number of shortcorners were given, from the first Gray scored the equaliser. Portsmouth then dominated the goalmouth action and were 1-4 up just before half time. The Pilgrims kept hopes alive when in added time Gray fired home another shortie. 2-4 at least gave us some hope as Rees left the scene for a romantic trip to London. We needed to reorganise at half time and Basey pushed up into midfield to make a 3-4-3 formation. This completely changed the game and Basey's added experience in midfield enabled Bloxham to stamp his mark on the match and in quick succession another shortie from Gray and one from Lenel brought the scores level.

We had noticed that Portsmouth looked slightly short of numbers at the beginning of the game until they were boosted by 3 players coming straight from the previous 1stXI game. These nippers now began to get the better of some aging Pilgrims and managed to make some good chances well saved by Andy.

The game became stretched and the fitness of the oppo began to tell although Rosoman continued to create many chances, to be fair the game was excellently umpired by both Geoff Ledger and his counterpart and the rather agricultural Portsmouth tackles were appropriately dealt with. Pilgrims were also guilty of some hearty swishes at the ball and both Toplas and Taylor made a good effort of reducing a forwards stick to matchwood! Without good and firm umpiring I fear the game may have degenerated as it is bound to when some players do not have any idea what they are doing wrong! As the game went on it became clear we were going to struggle to make chances in open play and indeed I think we only had one attempt on goal in the game.

We were caught on a quick breakaway a couple of times and unfortunately we failed to clear the rebound off Andy's pads at a shortie and they flicked home to take the lead. Pilgrims had a number of shorties to equalise but with the stick stoppers off the pitch the routine wasn't as good as it needed to be.

Disappointing result after the excitement of last week but hey ho that's how it goes when the best players in the squad are unavailable!

MOM. Bloxham for an accomplished and classy display at centre midfield, Rees for coming all the way to the south coast when he knew he was only able to play the first half and Andy the keeper for helping out.

Wally of the day. Must go to Howells for hitting the ball away at a free hit, getting a green and then talking his way into a yellow.

Adrian - all our sympathies are with you in this sad time following the passing away of your Mother. You, Angela and the children will all be in our thoughts.

Happy Easter everyone - get fit, be available and lets have a good finish to the season!

Gondoliers 3 Woking Pitts the Elder 0 Jordan (51 & 68 mins), Frew (61 mins).

Most of the team arrived for a 2.45 start to be told that we were not performing until 4.15. Oh dear! child minder problems, Valentine prospects disrupted etc, etc. The upside was watching an exciting game of rugby which left the Gordon's deflated and Windsor-Lewis over excited - father and grandfather played for Wales see boyo.

The situation was reminiscent of the old days and the Skipper must have been looking down with a wry smile as the Gondoliers, fired up on beer and rugby, embarked on a game that was very different to last week's sloppy and bad tempered affair. We even saw the Gondo's lined up for the start with Woking still struggling to extract themselves from their track suit bottoms, a rare moment indeed!

Woking had no problems with child minders and enjoyed a good ten year per man edge on experience but the legs were a different matter. As a result they were pinned into their own half where they absorbed constant waves of Gondolier attacks. Unfortunately the Gondolier dominance compressed the play allowing Woking's well organised and obdurate defence to smother every Guildford endeavour. Even Young Gordon the goalie was elevated to playing sweeper in his own twenty three. No score at the half with the Gondo's bereft of ideas and Woking starting to believe in the possibility of a breakaway winner.

Woking's new belief was their undoing, allowing the game to open up and 16 minutes into the half Jordan finally broke the impasse with a deflected shot that looped over the jostling mass of bodies in the circle to drop into the top corner. Woking went for the equaliser and suddenly there was space and a second goal driven in by Frew from the top of the circle. In the dying minutes a deliberate Woking boot resulted in a short which was calmly nudged over the line after an untidy melee in the goalmouth.

An impartial observer.

P.s The umpire was out of order in giving a short as the deliberate boot was outside of the 23m line - such is life

Ladies Reports

Guildford 1s 3 Wimbledon 1s 0

Guildford Ladies 1s returned to their winning ways on Saturday with a 3-0 victory over Wimbledon. Jade Redfern and Kerry Mills linked up to create the first goal, Kit Kat and Kerry for the second, and Jade slotted home the third. Mom was Zoe for her role in defence this week - controlling the game and making visionary passes. Good job team.

Guildford Ladies 3's 3 Woking Vets 0 (Jess x 2, Sam)

Having beaten Woking Vets earlier in the season we went out feeling pretty confident for the match ahead. It was a freezing day and with a pitch side team talk from Cas (who has half way through playing her own match) it started to snow!!!! After a long and very much needed warm up we went out aggressive against Woking. They had some experienced players but we dominated and after some great chances, Jess roofed the first goal on her reverse stick getting the score to 1-0. Well done to Vicky O for not trying to head this one in after an attempt last week, leaving her with a third boob... Half time came and we really picked up in the second half. We had most of the possession and began to play more of our own game, passing the ball round well and switching it round the back. This really built our confidence and we created about 20 chances!!!! Ros came especially close and was very unlucky not to have scored, Vicky O came within a whisker of the far left post and Libby ALMOST dribbled it into the back of the net! A long awaited second goal finally came from a cracking pass into the D which skimmed Jess' stick (who was just inside the D) and went straight in! We were 2-0 up. Woking were not pleased and they began to get very argumentative with the umpires. This was later over shadowed by the umpires themselves calling time and having a word with each other... As we

continued to play a very attacking game we were awarded a number of short corners and after going for that left post about 5 times we finally converted it into a goal! The score was 3-0 and with a few last minute attacks & breakaways from Woking, our defence held strong and we did not concede a single goal! Great result and well played everyone!

MOM: Charlie Cox

DOD: Libby... Although, Kristy was also a VERY strong contender too....

Windsor Vets 0 Guildford Ladies 4's 1

We were looking forward to a friendly game, and everyone was very relaxed. Which is lucky as I managed to make the meet time at the Spectrum about 45mins earlier than necessary... sorry about that everyone, but the "Guess the Musical" song game kept us entertained ☺. The first-half was full of opportunities for us, with some great saves by their goalie and one shot just spinning out at the last second. We were playing well, passing the ball around and switching play. With Abi and Philly playing really well together up the right-hand side, with Claire and Emily holding the fort in the middle of the pitch, it was working well and we felt it was just a matter of time before we scored. The second half started with more of the same, and Philly made one of her decisive runs with the ball down the right, drove into the 'D' and then hit a cross which took a deflection off their defender wrong footing the goalie and it hit the back of the goal... it was 1-0. About 10 minutes into the second half they were attacking and Claire ran back to help in the defence, the attacker changed direction and Claire turned to follow the ball, unfortunately as she twisted she fractured her leg! We abandoned the rest of the match.

A big thank you to the team for helping before the paramedics arrived, sorting out her car and going with her to the hospital. Our thoughts go out to her and we wish her a speedy recovery.

Fireflies 5 Byfleet Ramblers 1 4 (George, Sals, Shevs, Jacqui, Cas)

Unusually, we had a wonderfully large squad of players who turned out on Saturday for our game against Byfleet 1st X1. Firstly, thanks to Rachel for guesting in goal – we couldn't have done it without you! Also thanks to Vicky O from the 3's who added speed and finesse to our team. An added bonus was the debut of Jacqui Boot, whose son plays for the Mens 2's and who is a strong, versatile player – a really positive addition to our squad.

The game started at pace and the ball was moved around well with some good link-up play from our midfield to our forwards. George was poised at the post to tap the first goal in after a bit of a goalmouth melee. Our second goal (I think!) came soon after from a short corner strike by Sals. Byfleet suddenly woke up and by half time had scored two goals to level the score. Just before half time Mel missed a sitter which would have put us into the lead!

Shortly into the second half it was Shevs who decided to go on a mazy run through the defence and slot the ball home. Feeling comfortable again with the score at 3 – 2 in our favour we had the confidence to try a different idea for our next shortie and it was Jacqui who slammed the ball into the goal on her debut. Mel tried her luck again, but first she hit the keeper and then the post! Byfleet struck back again and narrowed our lead until it was Cas' turn to smash the ball at the backboards from our next shortie. There followed a most bizarre pattern of play in our defensive circle when Byfleet shot, Rachel saved, it fell to another Byfleet striker who had another shot which ricocheted off several players crossing from one side of the goal to the other but not actually crossing the goal line! How it didn't go in, we'll never know, but the final score was Guildford 5 – Byfleet 4. A very enjoyable game. Thanks to Finn and Alan for umpiring.