

Southampton Hockey Club

Newsletter 10th October 2009

Important information will in the first section and should be read

SUBSCRIPTIONS are now over due

HAVE YOU PAID?

HALOWEEN - SET THE SCENE

COMING TO YOU @ THE VIEW

31st October 2009

Next event at the View is the celebration of the witches, so get your broom sticks charged and ready to fly

£5 to include disco, quiz & buffet

OTHER VIEW OPTION

Going into town for your birthday drinks? Why not start at the Sporting View and go on from there

CONGRATULATIONs TO

Molly Mackean who has also been selected for HiPAC/Future's Cup training

BEST WISHES

to Pete Atkinson and Lydia on their wedding on Saturday 10th October 2009

REPORTS

Ladies

ONES

THE JOURNEY

After a nightmare journey last year, when we were forced to drive over kerbs and pavements to get out of a traffic jam, which was delaying our highly tuned pre-match warm up, we studied various routes to Paddington

Rec. but eventually decided that it was better to take our tried and trusted route knowing our escape route was always there.

Arriving at the pitch we were greeted by new changing rooms and a spanking new water based astro – oh to live in the affluent Maida Vale area of London was the cry.

However with the new pitch came the latest addition to the health and safety hand book - thou shalt not be on the pitch when watering takes place so everybody was required to vacate the pitch to allow watering to take place. Hope it does not rain there.

Opposition arrived and we were greeted by arms around necks from former Southampton gal, Ros Spink, who was now dressed in her Hampstead strip.

THE GAME

The new pitch was spongy and produced some interesting bounces but allowed players to show their individual skills and move balls at pace.

The first half saw Southampton attack with enthusiasm and created several good attacks requiring the Hampstead keeper to be on top form to ensure Southampton did not move ahead.

Seconds before half time Hampstead forced a short corner and were able to push all ten outfield players to the Southampton D. A straight strike found its way into the Southampton net to send the home side into the break ahead despite the dominance of Southampton's play.

Having asked that the opposition's keeper change her shirt it required Linda Dunham to lend a shirt to her opposite number one of hers. Now the girls enjoy shooting at Linda in training as she always wants to train at maximum level and encourages the strikers to do likewise. The girls could now visualize Linda at each shot.

The change worked and after ten minutes Emily pounced on a loose ball at a short corner and lifted it neatly over the logged keeper to equalise.

Attacking down the right flank had led to several good round the back runs and crosses and one of these from Sue Merry found Rachel Harlow, whose reverse shot took Southampton ahead.

With confidence high and playing well Southampton restricted Hampstead to limited in depth attacks but the home side eventually forced a short corner and although Emma White beat off the initial shot the rebound went wide to a loose attacker whose shot was destined to hit the corner flag before it took a deflection and sailed into the Southampton net.

Over all a good solid team performance from a side that continues to play some scintillating hockey which was complimented on by the following men's team after the game

Mom Rachel Harlow

THE RETURN HOME

After last year's unexpected torturous route home we decided to follow the multimap directions home.

These took us south down the Edgware Road to Hyde Park Corner around Marble Arch out through Kensington, passing the V&A, Natural History and Science museums.

This little tour of London required asking a policeman the way (well he did park next to us), battling with a BMW around Marble Arch (we had her by the time we reached Harrods), some incitement from Miss B to jump the lights (would I put such valuable cargo at risk), a few squeezing through narrow gaps and apparently a fines' list to be carried into next week adjudication by fines' mistress Emily.

TWOs

Despite having lost to London Wanders 2 – 4 this was a better team performance and gives the Twos

something to build on.

Hollie Nutt scoring both goals

THREES

Southampton 3rds vs Fleet and Ewshot 2-1 Scorer Claire Johnson (2)

The 3rds entered this game looking for their 3rd win on the trot. After a good start and with Southampton putting pressure on right from the start we soon settled in to a controlling position.

With most of the play taking place in Fleets "D" we had a lot of near misses on both posts. Eventually Claire managed to get hold of one of the passes into the "D" and slotted it into the goal for the 1st goal.

After a number of short corners, that we were unable to convert, Fleet got a break against the run of play and managed to score their goal. Not to be put off we were quickly putting pressure back onto Fleet.

After a nerve racking break by fleet to see their goal disallowed it was 1/2 time.

Southampton were once again quick off the blocks and were running the game with numerous opportunities to score a goal but not quite converting. After being given another short corner it came back out to Roz who hit it back in at the goalie for it to come off them on to the stick of Claire who put it into the back of the goal.

Overall the team played well and welcomed new players into the squad. The 3rds are sitting 2nd in league due to goal difference.

MOM - Claire Johnson.

FOURs

The fourths travelled to Petersfield and appreciated the lovely sunny weather.

We played well from the beginning with Lyn scoring two goals while standing by the post, the first being a quick deflect of the goalie.

We went on the score two more, one by Lindsay and the other by Sarah Stewart.

Towards the end of the match, Petersfield were given a penalty flick and they scored their only goal of the match.

Overall the team played well together especially in the mid and there was some great play in the attacking D.

Well done Lyn for being man of the match

FIVES

Southampton 5's v Fleet and Ewshot 2's

Final score 3-1 to Southampton 5's yay, we're on a roll! The 5's were all the way in Aldershot today for their 3rd league game of the season which seemed like the other end of the country, miles away! An interesting convoy of cars to get there, Emma's roller skate, Julie's high tech automobile aka KITT, the car that parks itself amongst a multitude of other clever tricks, and Sue's 'polish your feet before you get in please Maria' new car!

This was a very tough and physical game, with numerous injuries and stoppages! Amy ended up with a bit of a shiner following being hit in the face by an errant hockey stick from the opposition, and Jess ended up with a swollen foot after a hard whack of the ball! Injuries aside, this was a great game with a lot of spirit and team effort as is becoming typical of the 5's. After some battling we went 1 up, following a 16 yard hit out from Sue, building up through the halves and a good strike from Maria rebounding off the GK out of the D. Lisa picked the ball up and put it back into the D to find Danni who knocked the ball through the GK's legs into the back of the net.

The score line remained 1-0 well into the second half, until Fleet and Ewshot took advantage of some tired legs and slipped a goal in, making it 1-1. The 5's heads did not go down however, and Maria started the game off again in great attacking style. The last 10 minutes of the game we piled the pressure on resulting in 2 further goals from Emma who stepped up into left wing.

First one following a cross in from Maria, and second following a short corner where the ball took a deflection and went flying into the sky. Emma was well placed when it landed to knock the ball into the back of the net.

An excellent hard fought game by the 5's, with 100% effort from everyone. A great game from newcomers to the 5's Sandy and Jess, well done to Captain Julie for a storming game in defence, and well done to Sam for stepping up to play GK having never played in goal before and putting some great saves in, as we were without our usual GK.

Man of the match went to Jess for a great game and never ending running (second place to Sue!).

Men

ONES

Southampton 4 v Yateley 3

WOW! A little too exciting for so early in the season, but those not involved seemed to be entertained. Yateley were a strong physical side with a well organised game plan and as it turned out a very effective short corner routine which they played for throughout. It was the visitors who took the lead early deflecting a corner in front of our keeper, after we had missed our first early chance. But Will Richardson levelled from the spot after Whiteside had been levelled by their keeper, the umpires very generously allowed their keeper to change kit, which was an error, but one which Yateley forgot in their general berating of the umpires.

Whilst they were down to 10 men we managed to put in our worst spell of the game conceding two more short corner goals. Once they were back to full strength we seemed to revert to a better standard of play and were creating chances and some real pressure. But we turned around 3-1 down, if we could stop conceding corners we would have a real chance.

It was vital we scored next and Will Richardson duly obliged when the ball was worked in behind their defence and Ollie Knight squared past the keeper for a tap home. Yateley thought they had gone 4-2 up from another corner, but the goal scorer had entered the D far too early which was a simple decision for the umpires to give.

It was from this point on that Yateley seemed to press the self-destruct button, arguing with virtually every decision and putting in some pretty crude challenges. With 8 minutes left we took off a defender, and almost immediately one of the remaining three was clattered reducing them to 10 men for the remainder of the game.

This time we used the man advantage, and with an extra attacking player Yateley were pinned back with us attacking from all sides, Ollie Knight levelled with another close range finish from a flowing right side move. We thought we had the lead minutes later when Ollie squared for Will having weaved his way along the base line only to have his slightly lifted ball adjudged dangerous, we might have settled for the point but were very much on top.

With only a couple of minutes left the ball had been worked in to our front two and as with the first goal it was left to Will to tap in from another Ollie square ball past the keeper.

An anxious finish with Yateley pressing for the corner, but we held our nerve and took all three points.

(Goals: Richardson 3, Knight)

Paul

(Tong, Slade, Millar)

A shambolic start for the intrepid 1A's. Following the esteemed Mr Meacher's advice to play in white shirts we arrived at Andover to find, to no ones great surprise that Andover did indeed play in WHITE!. Fortunately the majority of the team had sensibly brought both shirts. Miles had only white but was aided by young Oli lending him his private school secret society blue striped number.

However, the experienced Millar was in real trouble, being so hung over that he had packed neither his white or his blue shirt!

After some hasty scrabbling around the team arrived a little late at the astro.

On arrival Tim Slade was nowhere to be seen. He would later arrive at half time having found the lure of Burger King at the Winchester services just too hard to resist!

On commencing the game Tong seemed to forget that he was not in a white shirt by drilling the push back hard at his own goal keeper. Whinge clearly not expecting to be the first Southampton player to touch the ball scrambled it to safety- setting the tone for a TERRIBLE half of hockey. Somehow the 1A's took the lead from a short corner. The Andover keeper was shocked to see Tong now choosing to hit the ball in the right direction and letting in a good low drag flick.

There then followed a period of really poor Southampton play where the team tried to do all they could to ignore the pre match discussion on how to play the game. Tong forgot he could run, Ball forgot he could pass, whinge forgot he could actually save the ball, Oli forgot to guard his post and poor old Jimmy just could not stand up! Having sweated four pints out the kind umpire took pity on him and gave him a yellow to have a rest in the corner for five minutes!

Southampton reached half time fortunate to only be 2-1 down to a disciplined but depleted opposition. Some tactical adjustments were made allowing Boyd and Millar to take care of their pivotal top of the diamond player. The 1A's also discussed the need to pick up the pace and use their superior fitness against an oldish opposition. Andover played into the 1A's hands by appearing to want to sit on their lead. Southampton pushed a forward high to drive the defence back. This created a lot more space to exploit and Southampton began to reassert their fast pass and move game. Andover were creaking defensively and with Slade now arrived the squad of 14 were rotated mercilessly to ensure the pace was kept high and Andover were kept on the back foot. A now sober Millar had a brilliant second half stepping in front of the solid Harry and intercepting the ball time and time again to launch Southampton attacks.

The 1A's got their reward when a good team move saw Slade hammer the ball into the roof of the net from the top of the D. Ball was running defenders ragged, driving time and again at them from the half way line. The decisive moment came when Millar intercepted the ball on the Southampton 25. He slipped it wide to Magee and kept running. Magee drew the centre half to him and slipped it back to Jim. Jim passed it on to Ball on the left. Ball attacked the full back and (as practiced at training) once he was committed slipped the ball to Jim. The keeper came out and Jim coolly slotted the ball home.

Southampton were then denied a clear p flick when Nicol took advantage of the goalkeeper trying to be too clever. Nicol appeared to be held back by the keeper just as he was about to score but the umpire saw it differently!

Southampton easily saw out the remaining ten minutes to secure a deserved win. Southampton walked off the pitch in time to watch several Andover players crawling off exhausted! Great credit to the whole squad who rotated around without any complaints. It was this real team ethic that secured another vital three points. The 1A's now sit comfortably at third in the table behind our esteemed Under 18s team (plus Whiteside,

Spencer and Knight!). Only 14 more points needed for the magic 20!

"I don't care who you are, where your from, what you did, as long as you love me" (Andy Ball, Oceana 10/10/09 2200 hours!)

THREES

Drew 1 – 1 with Aldershot & Farnham

FOURs

Southampton 4th XI (5) - (0) Lavant

Scorers:- J Ship (3), J Hatchett, S Arch

So once again the magnificence of the 4th XI got let out to play and the team that would be facing the wrath of the Almighty this week would be Lavant so we set about smashing their self-esteem into a finely ground pulp and rubbing it in their little underdeveloped faces from the first breath through the whistle as Southampton forced their way into their 25, set up camp, a campfire and got out the picnic-blankets because the ball didn't leave their half of the pitch for the first 15 minutes as pass after pass went around, through and over the pedestrian Lavant defenders until an intercepted pass just beyond the half way line gave Archie a chance to run at the defence pass it to Richards who took it into the D and around the keeper to lay it off to Ship who took his time to control the ball, finish off his biscuit and do whatever-the-hell-else he took the best part of the morning to do before he finally decided to flick it into the top corner for a completely deserved 1-0 lead with smugness and superiority but it didn't end there as Lavant restarted the match and immediately got forced back into their D for a short corner where Magnum PI belted the ball under the sleeping keeper for a second goal and so the match restarted again and Lavant began to make headway and even breached the Southampton half with one or two quick plays up the middle of the field to their attackers but excellent tackling by Si and astute awareness by Stu meant that all they could do was watch in woe as their pitiful attempts to get the ball into our net failed like a vegetarian in an abattoir and merely resulted in the ball being back up in their D again as Archie ran through their defence time after time and into the D to get to the by-line to cut the ball back past the keeper to a waiting Ship for the third goal of the match but even a slightly grumpy half-time-team-talk didn't stop our skills from shining like Jimmy Saville's hairdo under a theatre lamp as again we made their defence look as effective as Gary Glitter's PR manager and again had shot after shot until Ship ran through the D to fire an undercut that would have gone into the top corner like a flash of lightning if it wasn't for Archie poaching at the front post to deflect past the confused and illiterate goalie for a 4th goal in the side netting and a slightly enraged Mr Ship who would finally get his hat-trick in the shape of a lackadaisical turn-and-first-time-shot past the keeper for a 5-0 ego-stroking that put Southampton at the top of the table. Stick that in your pipe and smoke it.

FIVEs

SIXERs

Lost 0 – 5 to Trojans 5s

OTTERs

OTTERS 2 - SOUTHAMPTON 5's 1

As this game took place early in the season it perhaps missed a bit of the grit that is usually associated with these fixtures .

Although the half-time score was 0-0 we felt that we had little to be concerned about and if we carried on playing with the same movement the goals would come.

And early into the second half after a period of domination we got our first, Matt Wood finally getting the ball past Toby Rigby after some good saves by the keeper .

This seemed to fire the 5's up and there was a little more intensity about the match , only our keeper Nick stopping an equalizer with a top class save .

However we soon started finding space around the opposition 25 and Woody picked up his second with a strong run and shot.

After this we were comfortable until with two minutes to go the 5's scored with a strike from a short corner , but it proved to be only a consolation goal as this was to be their last attack .

SCORER : M WOOD 2

MASTERS

Petersfield 2 Southampton 5

Southampton travelled to Petersfield with a squad of 13, which given another warm afternoon proved to be advantageous.

Southampton started brightly and had much of the early possession.

Following good work in midfield from Ellis and Fossie, Moody cut in to the D from the right, with memories of his poor shooting from the previous weekend he did the sensible thing, drew the defender and then crossed for AC to turn the ball home from just in front of the keeper.

Whilst Southampton continued to dominate, Petersfield were dangerous on the break and Dadda was called upon to make a couple of fine saves. However from a cross from the right, the normally dependable Hutchinson hesitated and the ball went under his stick, and Dadda was left exposed (not a pretty sight) and the Petersfield centre forward swept the ball home from 5 yards out.

This set back spurred the Masters into action with Easters finding both Richardson and Harris in space down the left, and having won a short corner Easters slipped the ball to Harris whose shot was straight at the Petersfield keeper, but Gale was following in and found the net.

Another short corner followed shortly afterwards, albeit somewhat disputed by Petersfield, but Easters who was umpiring at the time was having none of it and stuck to his decision. Ellis then rubbed salt into the wound, hammering his shot into the bottom left hand corner of the goal. By now we should have worked out that the Petersfield keeper was capable of making some excellent saves when the ball was close to him, but he was clearly not the most agile around the D (AC see later).

Petersfield continued to cause Southampton problems on the break and from one we witnessed a Bone "classic", as he took out the forward in the 25 and given he would have been clear and in a goal scoring position, all the other 21 players on the field expected at a minimum a short corner, many a P flick and some (including those on the Southampton side) a yellow card.

The Petersfield umpire's decisionjust a free hit, which they then promptly hit straight into the D !!!!!

Southampton were finding much joy down the right and from a flowing move started by Kinger, having his best game of the season, Moody once again found a forward free in front of the keeper, but Richardson's first shot hit the post and the rebound was straight at the keeper.

In the final seconds of the half Southampton gave away a sloppy short corner, which they then failed to clear and after a melee in the D the Petersfield forward scored, to make the score at half time 2-3.

Early in the second half Ingram found Richardson in space, and his mishit pass bumbled through to AC who finished in style.

Hutchinson following his foray the previous week, was once again seen in the opposition D, slightly better result than last week in that he did at least manage to hit the ball, but the keeper "patted" his shot away in disdain.

From another short corner, Southampton made it 5, Easters scoring after playing a one two with Ellis, sweeping his shot into the bottom corner.

AC then had 2 or 3 chances to get his hatrick, the worst miss following a pass from Moody when he shot

straight at the keeper from 5 yards out, clearly not taking note from previous efforts that a scuff into the corner would probably have gone in.

Overall a fine performance, 4 points on the board after two games and the Masters into mid table mediocrity, just where we like to be !!!!

VETERANS

The A XI played their second league match of the season at home to Chichester Deacons'. They were well supported by the WAG's who were hoping for a home win.

Before the game had even started the A's had to come top terms with port spillage in the changing rooms - this may have contributed to a slow start!?(poor Danbers)

Chi. looked strong from the off and although the A's held out for the first 10 min's or so, two quick goals followed, putting the A's on the back foot. Midway through the half an A XI short corner resulted in a foot stopping a goal bound shot...a stroke which was well put away by Sid Holt to reduce the arrears.

Looking to hold on to the narrow margin until the break, the defence conceded a short corner with the last move of the half which was well converted.

Half time A's 1 Chichester 3

The best spell of the game for Chi. was the earlier part of the second half with a series of sweeping attacks. The fourth goal quickly followed, but then possibly the best move of the match saw Finch'y crossing for 5 pence(Spence) to bullet the ball past a flat footed keeper. 2 - 4.

Sooty was throwing his body on the line and Skip working hard at the back, but three further goals arrived, with good finishing leaving Oggie with no chance.

The A's kept fighting to the end and with 5 min's remaining Stokes was pushed off the ball as he prepared to strike at goal,he dusted himself off to convert the subsequent stroke and that concluded the scoring.

Full time A's 3 Chichester 7(Holt E,Spencer and Stokes)

The ring was awarded to Sid "birthday boy" Holt, with the man of the match going to Skip Gane(a landslide vote!)

Next week the A's face top of the league West Wilts, who have scored 17 and conceded 0 in their first two league games.

All WAG's welcome!

Chalkey, who lives in Worcester apparently.

JUNIORS

Boys U12

Aldershot & Farnham 5 - Southampton 1

Following a win in the first game the team went travelled to Aldershot in fine spirits, with a squad of 13. It was clear early on that this Aldershot & Farnham team was much stronger than the previous year, and Southampton were finding it difficult to gain any real possession in midfield.

At the back Will, Matthew H, Paul and Charlie seemed to have matters under control, but following a mistake Petersfield took the lead.

Up front Gabriel, Connor and Raja were working hard, but finding it difficult to get past a well drilled defence.

In midfield Oscar, Matthew M and Josh were starting to get some joy, and following a good move Matthew leveled the score with a good shot from just inside the D.

The game was now quite even, but all too often Aldershot were winning the 50/50 balls in all areas of the pitch. Bonnor in goal pulled off a good save coming out to block the incoming forward and substitutes Ben and Chris playing their first games were finding their feet.

The weather worsened and the rain started, and Southampton found themselves behind again when Aldershot scored from a well worked short corner.

Raja then missed a good chance and Matthew M had a short corner disallowed correctly, as the ball entered the goal closer to the bar than the back board.

Southampton's concentration then waivered, as Aldershot broke we had plenty of defenders but no one wanted to make a tackle and there was nothing Bonnor could do with the shot. Bonnor was called into action again shortly afterwards, whilst he saved the first shot well, the ball got caught under his feet and the Aldershot forward was first on hand ahead of any defenders to score.

Aldershot scored a late fifth goal which rather flattered the final score, but overall Southampton were well beaten on the day by a team that played much better as a team.

Phil

UNDER 16 Boys'

With several senior players electing to focus on men's hockey we were not at our strongest however those that did travel to Winchester played well and never let their heads drop.

The new hybrid pitch at Bar End is somewhat more bouncier than the well trodden SC sand and we spent much of the first half trying to adapt. Winchester, being more used to anticipating the odd deflection and bobble over the stick, were quick to pounce on loose balls and took a commanding lead by half time

Our young defence learned from the first half and held stronger in the second restricting Winchester to 2 goals and supporting the midfield and forward line to help create several good scoring chances, which on another day may well have gone in.

Looking on the positives the boys are learning each game and I was very pleased with the way they listened to what Dave and I said and took it on board.

Toby and Simon were my man of the matches, Simone at centre back played well and Luke and Mark had solid games. The other splayed well but it is a big step up form U14s to U16s.

Jill

THIS SEASON'S FIXTURES

These can now be found on the following web sites

A complete list of fixtures (inc friendlies) will appear on the SHC web site in due course.

LADIES

http://www.fixtureslive.com/api_page.asp

<http://www.hampshirehockeyassociation.co.uk/Public/FixturesMenu.php>

MEN

<http://www.south-league.com/>