

Sharpshooter Deegan gives Hampstead victory

Spencer 1, Hampstead 2

HAMPSTEAD gained their first victory of the season on the Spencer cricket club ground yesterday. They have been short of goal scorers this year and in this match it was only their centre half, Deegan, who pulled them through with his ability to strike hard and accurately at corners.

Spencer were on top for most of the first half. Their forwards, individually, were full of thrust and fight, but they were inclined to try and beat one man too many. Thus their attacks were contained, somewhat desperately, by a defence which was given time to get back into position. Even so, Spencer should have scored more than one goal before the interval. This was a good individual effort by Wagle, who broke through the defence and dribbled the ball into the net.

Hampstead did not look dangerous near the circle. Deegan early in the game decided to risk all and come up with his forwards whenever possible. He looked the most likely goalscorer against a defence in which Anderson and Prior excelled.

Fast, open game

Shortly after half time Hampstead drew level when Deegan scored from a short corner. This goal gave his side confidence and the battle raged up and down the field.

The ground had cut up badly and both sides did well to provide such fast, open hockey in the conditions.

Twenty minutes from the end Spencer gave Deegan another chance at a short corner. This was gratefully accepted and Hampstead succeeded in hanging on grimly to their slender lead.

Spencer: P. Darley; E. R. Smalley, H. C. L. Prior; A. E. Beard, A. W. Anderson (capt.), W. A. Wech; B. Curtis, A. Morris, R. Michael, B. Wagle, A. Adams.

Hampstead: D. G. Austin-Jones; R. Cockrell, H. M. Dunford; M. J. Wright, J. F. A. Deegan, J. Griffiths (capt.); P. D. Bell, N. A. F. Cardoza, C. Welles, R. Arshad, R. Williams.

Umpires: E. Muller and J. Davis (S.C.H.U.A.).