

RESULTS	2ndXL	4thXL	Spaniards	1stXL
DULWICH	1-1	1-2		
BADGERS (Broxbourne)			2-4	

REPORTS All the home pitches were unfit including the all-weather pitches at Highgate Wood and Picket's Lock. The Vets game was cancelled apparently because Dulwich could not raise a team. The U.C.H. (6thXL opposition) pitch was waterlogged.

The 2ndXL (Johnny Miller 1) was a bad-tempered affair being far too physical. I know most of our players came off the pitch rather disgruntled at the attitude of the Dulwich side and the inconsistent umpiring. We had four good chances in the first ten minutes with Dulwich down to only eight men. Brian Owles hit the post and their goalkeeper made some fine, if rather lucky saves. We went ahead from a short corner, Johnny following up after doing the push-out. Another fine performance from Steve Pennington.

The 4thXL (Ran Chitra 1) paid dearly for missed chances. After conceding a goal in the first half we took control and rather belatedly equalised just after the interval. However Dulwich played more direct hockey in the latter stages and clinched the winner. Ran had a fine game and the next best performance came from Bob Hale. However I think one or two players will have nightmares over those wasted opportunities.

The Spaniards (Will Samuel 1, Rod Tippen 1) with only Stewart Waggoner from the two top teams, did exceptionally well against a strong Broxbourne team. It was a fast, skilful match played in the right spirit. I thought the 5th team players did well though I did notice hitting wasn't as clean and hard as the opposition, a legacy I am sure of playing so often on all-weather pitches.

A few further comments about the Dulwich matches. Both our sides were out before 2.00, and then had to wait a very long time for the Dulwich players. Both matches started half an hour late with the opposition playing at first with eight and nine men respectively. In both matches there were no match balls. I am delighted that I am associated with Hampstead where we know how to treat the opposition whether home or away. Another point of interest to me were the Dulwich pitches. Dulwich use to have a reputation like Hampstead of unfit pitches during wet weather periods. Last March they had drains dug across both pitches and as a result now play more frequently, although probably not deserving to do so. It's something that we will have to consider for our pitches when the clubhouse improvements are finished and perhaps more money becomes available.

Sorry this is not one of my most inspiring bulletins but I personally feel it depressing when so many matches are called off.

FOUR-A-SIDE FOOTBALL (yes Football) Mike Wainwright and three of his mates at work play matches at the Jubilee Hall, Covent Garden at lunchtimes and in the evening. Mike is looking for friendly opposition from other companies. If you work nearby and can raise a team please contact Mike 286 4925 . p.s. could be 4975 (cannot read my own writing)

INDOOR HOCKEY.....NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

Our fine run finally came to an end in the leagues for the final thirty-two. It was a tremendous performance by the players to get so far, and we so nearly made the final eight. The crucial match was against the old Kingstonians which was a ding dong affair. The results were

v Bristol 9-4 v O.K.'s 5-6 v Southport 4-5
 Southport won the league and we came 3rd, which by my calculations put us between 16th and 24th in the country. Congratulations to Dave Dixon and Geoff Wilnott who organise the indoor part of Hampstead hockey.

DOUG NICHOLSON Doug is going to Scotland at the end of this month to live and work. Doug has been an outstanding club man and has been a vital member of the 2ndXL and 3rdXL teams over the past few years. The record this season of the 3rdXL speaks volumes for his captaincy. (I have always considered the 3rdXL as the most difficult side to captain). Best wishes from all of us Doug.

Details about a new captain for the rest of the season will be given shortly.

A.G.M. HORNSEY Don't forget the AGM whatever date it is (I've been given three separate dates so far). You should receive details shortly.