

BULLETIN No. 5Match Reports for 9th October (v. Purley)

First XI (0 - 2) - a disappointing result with car problems again causing dislocation to the line-up. This time it was Harry Watson who missed the first half. Late recruit Dirk Fleming almost wrote his name into Hampstead folklore when he just failed to reach a re-bound off the post, but soon after Purley scored from a short corner. Harry's troubles were not at an end when he finally made it to the ground; first he was asked to change his shirt and then he spent 10 minutes behind the goal for some unorthodox midfield tackling. Purley's second goal came from a late breakaway but surely the most significant incident of the game occurred just before half-time when the umpire failed to award the cleanest p-flick of this decade to Hampstead.

Second XI (3 - 2) - when all players realise they are a part of a team we will be a better club (a Catley truism this time!). Everyone is responsible for getting himself and all his kit to the ground at the right time. New players can be partly excused but even so they should make sure they are aware of the procedure. Two bad defensive errors nearly gave away what should have been an easy win. A superb backhand smash from Hugh Smith gave us the lead at half-time. From the re-start after their equaliser Oakes and Benwara combined for the finest goal seen for a long while. Skip gave away a silly stroke but Hugh rescued us with a fabulous shot at a short. Thanks Hugh we needed that! P.S. Michael Laven also played - there you are Mike, said you would get a mention.

Third XI (4 - 2) - one goal from Fawley and three from Hillel saw us home. "Time has not diminished his peerless skills" (have I heard this before!). Chiselled out of minuscule opportunities that supremo of goal scoring Abe disappears to Israel having shovelled in two from two feet. This enabled the third's to maintain their 100% record and top of the league status. Good luck Abe! Don't forget the sun-tan lotion on your backside for the outdoor sessions with the women! The match? oh yes, well played everyone.

Fourth XI (4 - 0) - at last, a win. Super surgeon ~~Parker~~ not only cuts his way through his patients but also the opposition to slot home a hat-trick. A cracking goal from Tony Goodwin made the fourth. Many thanks to Alan Delaney for standing in (well, more than that actually). A good all-round performance. Why can't we do this more often?

Fifth XI (score uncertain - I think we lost) - game started with nine Hampstead men holding off eleven from Purley. Opposition couldn't cope with our system - neither could we. 1 - 0 down at half-time. Paul Vann and Tim Cartmell arrived which totally confused Purley. Mad Mike Jansen equalised from a shorty (eventually) - keeper got deceived by a leg-break into the D (sorry chaps) and we lost, even though we didn't deserve to (how many times have I heard this before). Oh yes, I must mention Tony Elliott's immaculate umpiring - "I thought it might have been a flick, but".

Sixth XI (cancelled)

Veterans v. St. Albans (1 - 7) - our only goal was scored by Cai. We decided to abandon the traditional skills which we usually show, like stopping and hitting the ball. This was greatfully received by the opposition. We became a little more competitive in the second half but to no avail. Not a good performance.

Many thanks to Dave Teale who rose from his death bed to umpire for us. I only wish we had been able to do his efforts justice.

Match Reports for 16th October (v. Teddington)

First XI (1 - 1) - a penalty stroke converted by Flajsner in the second minute gave us the fine start needed against last season's London League runners up. Tight defensive work frustrated Teddington until early in the second half when another p-flick resulted in an equaliser. Overall fine team performance in which Watson excelled as sweeper (he arrived on time this week) and Delaney made an impressive debut.

Second XI (2 - 1) - yet more goals from Hugh Smith, the first early in the first half and the second mid-way through the second. We were in trouble early on with Borrett pulling a hamstring and Mason a thigh muscle. They equalised after 10 minutes from a short corner and we had to fight a rear guard action with several people playing out of position doing well (McCabe and Higson in particular). A fine move between Oakes, Borrett and Hugh brought the second goal. Overall, a brave performance despite appalling umpiring which we were lucky to have the better of. We were also considerably helped by the kids behind the goals refusing to throw the ball back. I think Teddington wondered whether we paid them to do this.

Third XI (2 - 1) - a p-flick by Fawley and a goal by Tipping ensured that the winning streak continued. Ask David Taverner who was chased across the pitch by the opposing centre forward - runs faster than anything seen! Top of the league - long may this continue. The opposition informed us that they switched the inswingers (?) because our left-back was rather weak (Bob Hale denies this and mentions that the reason he gave away a p-flick was "because there was too much rain on his head"). Fawley was told by the umpire that he should rest his overworked stick for 5 minutes behind the goal - he insists that the umpire signalled a short corner (come back McCabe all is forgiven). Sound debut by James Bardner (skipper beats everyone (and himself) and stops the shot). Yes, he did buy a jug. Good p-flick by Fawley after well executed short corner. JT slots the winner.

Fourth XI (1 - 5) - a disaster. To say we were mediocre would be an understatement. We started with ten men and lost a quick goal but even with a full side we could make little impression on their defense. No fault of Steve Purnell mind you. Another superb goal by Tony Goodwin softened the blow slightly. He seems to specialise in the spectacular now. Dave Burliegh's umpiring gear made us all reach for our sun-glasses!

Fifth XI (0 - 1) - atrocious conditions. We played well and they got a breakaway goal. One of them deserved to be sent off and Miles was hard put not to thump him. Paul Vann played well and Dave Edney managed yet again not to keep a clean sheet.

Sixth XI (3 - 3) - goals from Garrett, Holman, Francis completed a good all-round performance. We had considerably more of the play and much of this was due to a fine performance by that seasoned (make of that what you will) player Robin Francis. Welcome to Messrs. Docker and Boughton.

Veterans (3 - 5) - golden sticks Schröder^e slotted all of our goals but to no avail. The opposition seemed to be getting younger and we are getting older. One all at half-time then Richard's Metaxa fired Teddington more than us. Four quick goals put them 5 - 1 up but a late recovery brought some respectability to the score line.

Mixed Match Report for 10th October v. Gerrards Cross

Despite losing 0 - 3 we enjoyed a successful outing. Some of us were suffering from Purley's excessive hospitality and at least one lady complained of lack of match fitness - perhaps they should all be referred to Norman (?). Thanks to Gerrards Cross for making the pitch available as ours was unplayable and for making numerous toasts to our future. The captain says of the result "we haven't played with each other enough yet".

Indoors

Middlesex League - drew 6 - 6 with Poole (yes, Poole in Dorset). Harry missed this game altogether. If you want to play indoors (hockey that is) contact Jerry Stanyard on 935 4773.

Equipment

Contact Pete Marshall for your new stick.

Subscriptions

Payment in full^{or} by instalments has now been received from: Sadler-Forster, Brunton, Marshall J., Kraj, Marshall P., Borrett, Coleman, Flack, Catley, Stobart G., Burliegh, Tavener, Bardner, Ball, Marmion, Janson, Edney, Grierson, Allen, Purnell and Latter. Come on the rest of you, were is it.

Showers

Our illustrious leader has informed me that, following a row at a recent Hornsey Committee Meeting, a new boiler is being put in very soon.