

Mid Somerset 2nd XI.....1

Exeter Hornets 2nd XI.....0

Mids retained third spot in the Sun Life League division 2B match with the result they were seeking, but not the margin of victory they would have liked.

The home side were always on top and created more scoring opportunities in this game than they have done for

some time. Jason Evans in goal was rarely called upon, but when he was, he was quick off the line to stifle the danger of the opposing forwards getting through on the break to beat an otherwise resolute defence.

The first half was relatively even and apart from penalty corners and one chance for John Sawyer, Mids' best opportunities all came in the second half.

From the first attack of the second half, Peter Manley found a good position to receive Mike Davis's cross, but could not apply the final touch. Ten minutes

on and Malcolm Chorlton and David Yelland interchanged passes down the right to allow Yelland to atone for failing from penalty corners by squeezing the ball home under the advancing goalkeeper from a narrow angle.

Within a minute Roger Knife was positioned by an open goal to collect another Davis cross but put the ball wide when it was probably easier to score. Further attacks generated more chances but no goals, and Exeter Hornets were restricted to rare attacks as they tired in the pouring rain.

Shepton Mallets.....2

Mid Somerset Vets.....1

This was the Mallets' first experience of Veterans' Cup hockey, and although they won, the team and

their supporters found it very nail-biting stuff. Playing on the now familiar Astroturf pitch at King's School, Bruton, Shepton's early efforts were matched equally by Mid Somerset, whose play down the right wing in particular caused the Mallets defence some problems.

Both teams varied their hockey, using both short passes and longer balls behind the opponents' defence, and it was from one of these that Pete Winstone scored an excellent goal for Shepton from the edge of the D.

The possible turning point in the game came about 15 minutes into the second half when, within the space of two minutes, Winstone scored a second for the Mallets, providing the slightest of deflections from a Richard Trott centre, followed at the other end by Mid Somerset having a goal disallowed for offside.

Unperturbed, Mid Somerset continued to strive for goals and, following some sloppy defending, were awarded a penalty flick, from which Dave Yalland scored.

Exeter University 3rd XI.....6

Mid Somerset 2nd XI.....1

Mids were taught a hockey lesson by the students from Exeter on Saturday.

The game started with Exeter playing good hockey, and after 20 minutes the pressure told as Colin Creeves conceded a penalty, and then was unfortunate to see a deflection from his stick fly past keeper Ian Francis, who was doing duty in the absence of more regular keepers.

Just before half-time Mids started to get back into the game as Malcolm Chorlton crossed to Steve Cox, who unselfishly passed for John Sawyer to score from close range.

Shortly after the break, the students scored a third from a slick penalty corner routine, and added three more in the last quarter as Mids tired.

Mids end the first half of the Sun Life League season in fourth place in the table, and require a good win away at Chudleigh this week to bolster their aspirations of remaining in the top at the end of the season.

Chudleigh 2nd XI.....1

Mid Somerset 2nd XI.....1

On previous form Mids were disappointed to draw this game, but in fairness the result was a true reflection of the play, albeit Mids had the more attacking chances.

Injuries and illness meant that Mids took the field with five different players from the side that had beaten Chudleigh earlier in the season, and the two newest recruits, Neil Kidner and Gareth Seary, both had good games in the mid-field.

Ian Francis, generously offering to play goalkeeper, was defeated midway through the first half as he came out to a forward, and could only decelerate a shot that then trickled the line.

After another good save with his hand it never really looked as if he was going to be beaten again.

Both defences struggled to clear the ball at times, and it was following a period of attack that Mids equalised.

On the stroke of half-time Malcolm Chorlton, on the right wing, collected David Yelland's aerial pass, went around the defender and crossed for John Sawyer to collect a second goal in two weeks.

The second half was again evenly contested, with Mids having more attacks, but strangely only one penalty corner to Chudleigh's three.

Two good chances went begging near the end, but had one of them been converted Chudleigh would have been deeply disappointed losers.

Mid Somerset have no fixtures now until the new year.

Lively intra-club game

Mid Somerset 2nd XI.....3

Mid Somerset 3rd XI.....0

With the opposition for both Mid Somerset's 2nd and 3rd XIs failing to meet their commitments, an intra-club game was arranged at Edgarley Hall, Glastonbury.

A good turnout ensured a lively but

friendly game, and showed the club is gaining strength in both numbers and performance, although more new players are always welcome.

The 2nd XI return to league action this week with a home fixture against North Devon.

Mid Somerset 2nd XI.....1

Taunton CS 2nd XI.....4

Taunton admitted to being flattered by this result, although Mids had only themselves to blame. With 15 minutes remaining the game was a tight draw, with Mids having

most of the attacking pressure but Taunton looking dangerous on the break.

From one such break Paul Salvidge was forced to handle on the line, conceding a penalty flick that was competently converted. A minute later, with Mids hesitating for an offside decision that did not go their way, the visitors' winger broke through and defeated goalkeeper Tom Medicott with a well-struck shot.

Shortly afterwards Medicott, having made one brilliant save and several good saves in the first half, then made his worst mistake of the season as he neatly stopped an innocuous through ball for the visitors' centre-forward to put it in the net.

All this followed an eventful first half when Taunton took the lead as Medicott saved a mis-hit shot from the visitors, only to see it trickle into the path of another forward, who duly converted. Mids had equalised with the goal of the match as Malcolm Chorlton, Mike Davis and Mark Johnson interchanged passes down the right for John Sawyer to knock in the cross.

Mid Somerset 2nd XI.....0

North Devon 2nd XI.....0

Although Mid Somerset must regard this as two points dropped against the division's bottom side, in truth it was one point gained for the visitors by brilliant goalkeeping.

The game started with Mids playing for 10 minutes like the Ancient Mariner as they stopped one in three, but gradually they took control of the game until in the last 20 minutes the ball was hardly out of the visitors' half.

Several brilliant saves by Nick Bathurst in the North Devon goal kept Mids at bay, and although Mike Davis on the right continued to create chances, in the end the home side were not good enough to turn any of them into a goal.

Mid Somerset 2nd XI.....1

Shepton Mallet 2nd XI.....2

Shepton Mallet finished deserving winners of this local derby, but that did not stop Mid Somerset being disappointed with the result, having led at half-time.

Shepton had the majority of possession throughout the game, and played good hockey down both right and left wings, where Richard Briscoe played particularly

well. However, for the most part the final ball was easily cut out by Mids' defence, and it was from set pieces that Shepton had their best scoring opportunities.

Mids took an early lead with a breakaway goal when, with Shepton pressing and taking a free-hit near Mids' circle, the ball was intercepted, cleared to Matt Fry on the halfway line, and touched on to Toby Southgate, who rounded both the lone defender and the goalkeeper before running the ball into the net.

In the second half, Shepton struck back from a penalty corner as a Nick James shot was deflected into the net. Shortly afterwards, with Shepton having their best period of the game, a well-struck Andy Boyce shot hit a defender's foot before crashing against the post. Stuart Hares put

the rest of the roof. This their be regular necessa to Chr generated the pace ar fine tries. Wells backs wo score fairly respect, deserved winners. penalty

SUN LIFE HOCKEY LEAGUE SOUTH DIV 1

	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Marjons	7	1	4	31	17	22
Penzance	6	2	4	18	15	20
East Devon	5	4	2	22	14	19
Bodmin	5	4	3	19	18	19
Bridgwater	6	1	4	22	23	19
Ottery Ckts	4	4	3	19	16	16
Torbay	3	5	4	21	19	14
Minehead	3	5	4	18	18	14
Dawlish	3	3	6	14	22	12
Mid-S'et	0	3	8	4	26	3

SOUTH EAST DIV 2B

	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Yeovil B	9	1	1	44	7	28
Exeter Univ B	7	1	2	25	12	22
Shep Mallet A	6	2	3	22	8	20
Taunton Vale B	6	2	1	14	8	20
Mid-S'et A	4	4	2	10	12	16
Chudleigh A	2	2	6	10	17	8
Exeter Hrnts A	1	2	7	10	23	5
Chard A	0	3	6	3	30	3
North Devon A	0	2	7	5	25	2