

Mids record best win for year

Frome 2nd XI.....1
Mid Somerset 2nd XI.....12

As unbelievable as the scoreline may read, Mids scored six goals in each half to record their biggest win for years. A number of factors may have accounted for this. An early 10am start, a new team captain, an organised warm-up before the game, opposition with only 10 players, but the most important reason was that Mids played exceptionally well and fully deserved their victory.

Despite scoring 12, only four players scored goals. Thirteen-year-old Robbie Branch and Matt Horsham got their first goals for the team. Branch completed a well deserved hat-trick, while Horsham scored a brace. Top scorer was John Price who netted five times, while Jon Sawyer scored twice. Mids could even afford the luxury of missing a penalty stroke, saved by the Frome goalkeeper.

It was a shame that this was only a friendly and not a league fixture as this would have given Mids a much improved goal difference.

On Saturday (December 20), there is a club game at Edgarley starting at 11.30am. If anyone is looking to play regular hockey then they are welcome to join club members for a game.

Yatton C.....2
Mid Somerset B.....4

This was much-improved performance from Mids in the mild, sunny weather at Clevedon Football Club. They dominated the first two-thirds of the game and took a commanding three-goal lead.

The first goal was scored by David Yelland, who converted a short corner into the roof of the net. The second was scored by Jon Sawyer after some lovely individual skills in the circle, while Yelland added the third from another short corner.

Mids then fell away a little and allowed Yatton back into the game. They scored two goals from open play and were unlucky not to equalise when they were denied a third goal thanks to a brilliant save from goalkeeper Nick Senior.

With only two minutes remaining Mids broke away and made the game safe with a fourth goal from Matt Horsham.

Special mention must be made of two youngsters, Tom O'Gorman and Maadin Bysrazor, who adapted themselves well to playing in new positions.

South East Div 1: Bridport Hawks 1 Exmouth 10, Chard 3 Taunton Vale B 0, Mid Som. 2 Yeovil B 1, Ottery Crickets A 1 Sidmouth A 0, Torbay A 4 Bridgwater A 3. **Div 2:** Dawlish A 3 Seale Hayne 1, East Devon A 3 Chard A 1, North Devon 2 Exeter Univ B 1, Shepton Mallet A 1 Ottery Crickets B 2, Taunton CS1 Exeter Hornets A 3. **Div 3:** Chudleigh A 1 Bridgwater B 1, Exeter Hornets B 4 Bridport Hawks A 0, Exmouth A 5 North Devon A 1, Minehead A 2 Mid-Somerset A 0, Taunton CS A 7 Torbay B 0. **Div 4:** Bridgwater C 1 East Devon B 1, Isca C 5 Minehead B 2, Ottery Crickets C 3 Dawlish B 2, Sidmouth B 1 Taunton CS B 4, Yeovil C 1 Shepton Mallet B 1.

Minehead A.....2
Mid Somerset A.....0

Mids had a good recent record against Minehead, having won the previous two league games between the sides, but on this occasion they failed to find any form and a two-goal defeat was a fair reflection of the game. The first half was fairly even and Mids stayed on level terms when defender Colin Crees cleared a goalbound shot off the line after keeper Tom Medlicott had stopped a short corner shot. However, they then proceeded to take the lead when a terrific shot hit the post and rebounded to an unmarked player.

Minehead's young and fit forwards put a lot of pressure on Mids' defence, but a combination of timely tackles from Alan Wilton, Paul Salvidge and Crees kept Minehead at bay. When they were beaten Medlicott was at hand with some tremendous stops and he will be sorely missed as he embarks on his travels Down Under.

Mids did have couple of half chances, but never seriously threatened the Minehead goal. With the next three league games being played at home venues, Mids are in urgent need of points to avoid relegation for a second successive season.

South Division One						South East Div Two							
	W	D	L	F	A	Pts		W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Ottery Crickets	8	2	0	32	9	26	Exeter Hornets A	7	2	1	37	13	23
Exeter Hornets	8	2	0	31	12	26	North Devon	7	1	2	28	18	22
Plymouth Uni	6	2	2	39	14	20	Taunton CS	7	0	3	52	15	21
East Devon	5	1	4	25	16	16	Shepton Mallet A	6	1	3	32	15	19
Marjons	3	3	4	24	19	12	East Devon A	4	1	5	14	21	13
Torbay	4	0	6	16	23	12	Ottery Crickets B	4	2	4	21	28	14
Minehead	3	3	4	14	24	12	Exeter Uni B	3	1	6	15	22	10
Penzance	2	3	5	16	23	9	Chard A	2	2	6	16	33	8
Dawlish	2	1	7	11	39	7	Seale Hayne	0	3	7	17	50	3
Chudleigh	0	1	9	5	34	1							

South Division Two						South East Div Three							
	W	D	L	F	A	Pts		W	D	L	F	A	Pts
US Plymouth	8	2	0	47	9	26	Exeter Hornets B	7	3	0	25	12	24
Newquay	8	1	1	37	7	25	Exmouth A	7	0	3	36	17	21
Shepton Mallet	7	1	2	31	16	22	Chudleigh A	6	1	3	29	17	19
Bodmin	6	1	3	33	17	19	Taunton CSA	4	4	2	18	15	16
Taunton Vale A	4	2	4	28	23	14	Bridgwater B	4	2	3	23	11	14
PGSOB	3	1	6	16	26	10	Minehead A	4	1	5	21	21	13
Okehampton	3	1	6	24	37	10	Torbay B	3	0	7	21	38	9
OPMs	2	1	7	25	38	7	North Devon A	2	2	6	14	25	8
Exeter Uni	1	3	6	14	21	6	Bridport Hawks A	2	2	5	9	25	8
Plymouth A	1	1	8	17	78	4	Mid-Somerset A	2	1	7	17	31	7

South East Div One						South East Div Four							
	W	D	L	F	A	Pts		W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Exmouth	9	1	0	49	5	28	Isca C	9	0	0	68	5	27
Chard	7	0	3	43	12	21	Yeovil C	9	0	1	34	13	27
Bridport Hawks	5	1	4	25	17	16	Shepton Mallet B	6	0	4	31	28	18
Bridgwater A	5	0	4	27	20	15	Taunton CS B	5	1	4	26	27	16
Ottery Crickets A	4	3	3	17	16	15	East Devon B	4	0	4	31	24	12
Mid-Somerset	5	0	5	14	24	15	Dawlish B	4	0	6	19	44	8
Taunton Vale B	3	3	3	15	15	12	Minehead B	2	2	5	16	21	8
Yeovil B	3	2	5	15	35	11	Ottery Crickets C	2	1	6	9	27	7
Torbay A	1	2	7	10	34	5	Sidmouth B	2	0	7	10	39	6
Sidmouth A	0	2	8	2	39	2	Bridgwater C	1	2	7	9	25	5

Shepton Mallet 3rd XI.....4
Mid Somerset 2nd XI.....2

This was an entertaining match, particularly in regard to the elements, as high winds and hail storms raged.

Shepton took the lead from the penalty spot through Keith Errington, and went further ahead when Steve Smith converted from close range.

Shepton's all out attacking style left them exposed at the back several times, and Mid Somerset took advantage early in the second half. Shepton's response was almost immediate when they converted a short corner.

Shepton's last goal was the best when a sweeping move left Justin Errington with the simplest of tap-ins.

South East Div III - Bridgwater B 4
Exmouth A 0, Mid-Somerset A 2
Chudleigh 3, North Devon A 1 ECV
Hornets B 3, Taunton CS A 5 Minehead A
2, Torbay B 2 Bridport Hawks 1.

Mid Somerset A.....1
Taunton Civil Service A.....3

This was a game of two halves. The first belonged to the visitors, Taunton Civil Service, the second belonging to Mid Somerset. Taunton fielded a virtual veterans' team with only one player under 30 years of age. Their greater experience and the fact that they have played together for a number of years was reflected in their first-half performance, as they raced into a three-goal lead. Their second was unlucky for the Mids defence who responded to the shout to leave it, while the third resulted from a well-taken short corner routine.

The second half was all Mid Somerset. With four teenagers in the front line giving the attack an average age of under 20, Mids came back into the game with a number of attacks resulting from fluent

hockey. The Service goalkeeper made some good saves and was eventually beaten after a good move down the left. The ball eventually found Mike Edmunds and from his cross-shot, Jon Sawyer had the easiest chance to score. Mids were unable to add a second in a great game that was much enjoyed by both sides.

Mid Somerset A.....2
Chudleigh A.....3

It was back to league fixtures for Mid Somerset Hockey Club, with the 2nds entertaining third-placed Chudleigh, who were only one point behind second-placed Exmouth.

Although Chudleigh had the better of the early exchanges it was Mids who took the lead against the run of play when student Matt Horsham scored the opening goal.

The visitors responded before half-time after a short corner routine when, despite a goal-line, clearance the left wing followed up to score.

The second half saw another two goals for Chudleigh, but in between Cheddar schoolboy Robbie Branch scored a good goal to bring Mids back into contention.

For the remainder of the game it was all Mids as they put tremendous pressure on the visitors' defence, including a spell of seven successive corners.

But unfortunately they couldn't turn their superiority into goals and Chudleigh were relieved to hear the final whistle and maintain their promotion challenge.

Special thanks to Mike Stringer of the Cathedral School, who umpired the first 20 minutes of the game when the appointed umpire was delayed due to a tyre puncture.

Mid Somerset A.....5
Torbay B.....0

Mids were due to play Torbay at Wells in a relegation clash on Saturday.

However, the visitors were unable to raise a side and cancelled the game. Under the league rules Mids gained a five goals to nil walkover victory.

This Saturday (February 14), Mids were due to play at Bridgwater, but this game has been transferred to Edgarley.

The game will start at 1pm and will follow the first team game against Chard, which starts at 11.30am.

South East Div I: Bridport Hawks 5 Taunton Vale B 2, Chard 4 Yeovil B 1, Ottery Crickets A 0 Bridgwater A 2, Sidmouth A 0 Exmouth 7, Torbay A 0 Mid-Somerset 3.

South East Div II: East Devon A w/o Seale Hayne 0 5-0, Exeter Univ B 2 Exeter Hornets A 7, North Devon 0 Ottery Crickets B 0, Shepton Mallet A 7 Dawlish A 1, Taunton CS 9 Chard A 0.

South East Div III: Chudleigh A 16 Bridport Hawks A 2, Exmouth A 2 Exeter Hornets B 2, Mid-Somerset w/o Torbay B 5-0, Minehead A 5 North Devon A 3, Taunton CSA 1 Bridgwater B 6.

South East Div IV: Bridgwater C 0 Taunton CS B 0, Dawlish B 0 Shepton Mallet B 3, Isca C 11 Sidmouth B 0, Ottery Crickets C 2 Minehead B 2.

South East Div 1: Bridgwater A 3 Mid-Somerset 0, Bridport Hawks 1 Ottery Crickets A 1, Exmouth 2 Yeovil B 0, Sidmouth A 0 Chard 5, Taunton Vale B 1 Torbay A 4.

South East Div 2: Chard A 0 Shepton Mallet A 1, Exeter Hornets A3 Seale Hayne 1, Exeter

Univ B 3 East Devon A 3, Ottery Crickets B 3 Dawlish A 0, Taunton CS 3 North Devon 2.

Derby victory for Shepton

Shepton Mallet B.....4
Mid Somerset A.....2

The hockey season resumed after the Christmas break with a local derby game played at Shepton in a cold, wintry gale and a second hail storm which turned the Astro pitch white.

Mids had two early chances to open the scoring, but after this the home side dominated and Mids were indebted to the defending of Colin Crees and the goalkeeping of Paul Salvidge to reach half-time without conceding a goal. Salvidge once again heroically agreeing to keep when Tom Medlycott failed to turn up.

Shepton scored twice in the first five minutes of the second half, the first from a penalty flick when Alan Wilton was penalised for a foot offence on the edge of the circle.

Jon Sawyer pulled a goal back for Mids, but Shepton added two more goals during the hail storm before Matt Horsham completed the goal-scoring to give the home side victory.

Mids have one more friendly game before the league games restart and will have to play much better to pick up some badly needed points.