

**Mid Somerset 0**  
**Chard 1**  
The winter hockey season started on one of the warmest afternoons of the summer

when Mid-Somerset hosted Chard at the Blue School, Wells, on their new astro turf pitch.

This has become Mids' new venue and all future home games will be played here. The first half was very even, with both sides probing each other without seriously threatening the goalkeeper.

Steve Dowden donned the pads for the first 20 minutes for Mids, while the team waited for Charlie Medleycott.

Mids' best period of pressure came straight after half-time, when they had six successive corners, with skipper Brian Malone bringing two fine saves from the Chard keeper.

Midway through the half Chard took the lead when their skipper Andy Swain scored from an acute angle with the help of the goal post.

Mids had chances to equalise, but both Terry Petherbridge and Jon Sawyer missed opportunities.

The hot weather took its toll as the younger players struggled under the sun, Chard eventually winning by the odd goal.

● There are weekly coaching sessions at the Blue School, Wells, on Wednesday evenings for both men's and ladies teams from 7pm to 8pm. If anyone would like to play hockey, then they would be most welcome to join these sessions.

**Mid Somerset 2nds 4**  
**Millfield Colts 3**  
This was the first game of the season for both teams, played on the water-based astro at Millfield School.

The Mids were the dominant team in the early stages as they opened the scoring with a simple goal from Mike Edmunds. However, the Colts came back strongly and soon scored two goals to give themselves the lead. Mids equalised with the last hit of the half through Tim Cox.

Mids made some strategic positional changes at half-time, with Gary Squire returning to the defence. The Colts attack was blunted and Mids' goalkeeper was rarely troubled.

Mids took the lead following a short corner converted by Malcolm Chorlton and followed this with the best goal of the game when Edmunds scored his second.

The Colts pulled a goal back in the last

minute but there wasn't enough time for them to score an equaliser.

**Mid Somerset 3rds 3**  
**Millfield U14s 5**  
Mid Somerset will be fielding a third XI on a regular basis this season and, like the second XI, they were entertained by Millfield under-14s for their opening game.

The school side proved to be a very skilful unit and soon raced into a three-goal lead with some enterprising hockey. It took Mids a long time to settle, but they eventually came back into the game when Jonathon Creebs scored. Steve Plant, making a welcome return after a long-term injury, added a second, while early in the second half, Jon Laurijssem equalised.

This was as good as it got for Mids. They were soon regretting missing first-half opportunities as Millfield turned on the style to score two more goals and eventually ran out worthy winners by five goals to three.

**Old Bristolians II 6**  
**Mid-Somerset Men's II 1**  
Mids fielded four teenagers, including Charlie Medlicott in goal, who saved a penalty stroke, but could not stop their experienced opponents racing into a four goal lead.

Mids can take a lot of confidence from their second half performance when they created far more goallscoring opportunities.

Mike Edmunds played well in midfield and helped to create many openings.

The best chance fell to James Kench, while Jon Sawyer had a shot saved on the goal line and skipper Steve Dowden brought an excellent save from the keeper, following a short corner.

It was Dowden who eventually scored for Mids, who have one more friendly game before the league season commences.

The official opening of the new Sports Development Centre in Wells is on Saturday, September 25, from 10am to 4pm.

All are invited to experience the activities on show.

For people to select the activities, the following programme has been arranged:

- **All weather pitch**
- 10am to 11am: junior hockey coaching.
- 11am to 12.30pm: Wells Acorns 2nds v Frome 2nds hockey.
- 12.30pm to 2pm: Wells Acorns 1sts v Frome 1sts hockey.
- 2pm to 3.30pm: Mid-Somerset Men's 2nds v North Somerset 2nds hockey.
- 3.30pm to 5pm: Mid-Somerset Ladies v Yatton 2nds hockey.

**Mid-Somerset 2nd XI 1**  
**Yeovil & Sherborne 4th XI 1**

YEOVIL started brightly in their league clash with Mid-Somerset at Wells, and their early pressure paid off when Jamie Dyke deflected in a good cross from Dave Overd.

Ten minutes before half-time, Mid-Somerset equalised from a short corner, and that was how it remained, despite an exciting second half.

**Mid-Somerset Men's II 1**  
**Yeovil C 1**

With both of these teams winning their opening league games, this was not going to be an easy game and at the end of the day a draw was probably a fair result.

The majority of scoring chances came in the first half and it was against the run of play when Yeovil took the lead thanks to a well taken opportunity from their centre forward.

Mids were unfortunate not to equalise when Steve Dowden cracked the post from a short corner shot and this was followed by chances for both Jon Sawyer and Mike Davies which brought good saves from the keeper.

It was from another short corner that Mids equalised when the three aforementioned players combined to give Davies the final touch.

The second half was very even as both teams strove for a winning goal, but the defences stood firm and the game ended in a draw.

**SE Div I:** Exeter Hornets a 7 Exeter Uni B 2, Ottery Crickets A 1 Chudleigh 9, Taunton Vale b 1 Taunton CS 2, Yeovil B 5 Mid-Somerset 1.

**SE Div II:** E Devon A 1 Dawlish A 1, Isca C 7 Chard A 0, Ottery Crickets B 0, Exeter Hornets B 6, Sidmouth A 0 Bridgwater A 5.

**SE Div III:** Chudleigh A 2 Isca D 4, Mid-Somerset A 1 Yeovil C 1, Minehead A 5 Seale Hayne 0, N Devon A 9, Bridgwater B 0, Taunton CSA 2 E Devon B 1.

**SE Div IV:** Bridgwater C 3 N Devon B 2, E Devon C 1 Exmouth B 1, Taunton CS B 0 Torbay B 1, Dawlish B 5 Sidmouth B 0.

**Mid-Somerset Men's II 3**  
**North Somerset Men's II 2**

This was a good result for Mids after the previous week's defeat, but the main story of this game was the torrential rain from a thunderstorm, which took the players off the pitch after 17 minutes, when the all weather pitch became flooded.

At this point North Somerset had taken an early lead which they relinquished after the restart, when a Jon Sawyers cross was converted by John Price. North Somerset regained the lead when they converted a penalty stroke.

The second half saw Mids equalise for a

second time, when a shot from Ian Francis was deflected by the goalkeeper to give Malcolm Chorlton an easy scoring opportunity.

The game seemed to be heading for a draw when Mids scored the winner in the last five minutes. Chorlton reached the by-line and centred the ball which went directly into the goal.

The North Somerset defence stood still thinking that the ball was hit from outside the circle.

There were debuts for Mids for keeper Harry Frost and midfielders Steve Cowling and Simon Bethell.

The league season starts this weekend with a difficult away game at Isca.

● Training sessions are being held at the Blue School, Wells, on Wednesday evenings.

Mixed youth coaching is being held from 6.30pm to 7.30pm with senior men's and ladies coaching from 7.30pm to 8.30pm.

**Isca D 2**  
**Mid-Somerset Men's II 3**

This was the most difficult of opening league games for Mid Somerset, playing away to national league club Isca.

However, they got off to the best possible start with a 3-2 victory, thanks to an excellent goal-line stop by Mids goalkeeper Jason Evans in the last five minutes of the game, which denied Isca a draw.

Mids made most of the early play, but fell a goal behind due to some sloppy defending.

They came back strongly with goals from Simon Bethell, after a left wing cross from Jon Sawyer, and Malcolm Chorlton.

Mids were good value for their half-time lead, but Isca had their best spell of the match early in the second-half and this pressure brought a fortunate goal, after a shot hit the post and rebounded on to a defenders boot and back into the goal.

Mids' teamwork, which had been good throughout the game, brought a deserved winner when Sawyer scored the best goal of the game, with a crisp shot from the edge of the 'D'.

**South East Div I:** Exeter Hornets A 7 Ottery Crickets A 4, Exeter Univ A 1 Bridport Hawks 4, Mid-Somerset 4 Taunton Vale B 4, N Devon 8 Yeovil B 2, Taunton CS 5 Chudleigh 0.

**South East Div II:** Bridgwater A 7 East Devon A 1, Chard A 2 Exmouth A 0, Dawlish A 1 Isca C 6, Exeter Hornets B 4 Sidmouth A 0, Ottery Crickets B 0 Torbay A 2.

**South East Div III:** Bridgwater B 2 Minehead A 3, Chudleigh A 2 Taunton CS A 4, Isca D 2 Mid-Somerset A 3, Seale Hayne 1 East Devon B 6, Yeovil C 2 N Devon A 1.

**South East Div IV:** East Devon C 0 Dawlish B 3, Exmouth B 3 Sidmouth B 0, N Devon B 0 Taunton CS B 1, Torbay B 4 Exeter Hornets C 2.

**South-East Div I**

ECV Hornets A	.....2	2	0	0	14	6	6
Taunton CS	.....2	2	0	0	7	1	6
Bridport Hawks	.....1	1	0	0	13	1	3
North Devon	.....1	1	0	0	8	2	3
Chudleigh	.....2	1	0	1	9	6	3
Yeo & Sherb B	.....2	1	0	1	7	9	3
Taunton Vale B	.....2	0	1	1	5	6	1
Mid-Somerset	.....2	0	1	1	5	9	1
Ottery Crickets A	.....2	0	0	2	5	16	0
Exeter Uni B	.....2	0	0	2	3	20	0

**South-East Div III**

Taunton CS A	.....2	2	0	0	6	3	6
Mid-Somerset A	.....2	1	1	0	4	3	4
Yeo & Sherb C	.....2	1	1	0	3	2	4
East Devon B	.....2	1	0	1	7	3	3
Isca D	.....2	1	0	1	6	5	3
Minehead A	.....1	1	0	0	3	2	3
Bridgwater B	.....1	0	0	1	2	3	0
North Devon A	.....1	0	0	1	1	2	0
Chudleigh A	.....2	0	0	2	4	8	0
Seale Hayne	.....1	0	0	1	1	6	0