

**Mid-Somerset 2nd XI** 3  
**Ottery Crickets 2nd XI** 1

This was an important game for the teams occupying the last two positions in the league, played in the most appalling of conditions, with torrential rain and strong winds.

It was Mid-Somerset who made all the early running and they can count themselves unlucky not to have scored a hatful of goals in the first half.

There were several missed chances, some fine saves by the goalkeeper, some horrendous misses, shots which hit the post and some good defensive play by the experienced Crickets defence. There were also short corners, misses and shots from the Mids central defenders.

But just when it seemed the first half would remain goalless, Mike Davies scored after some scrappy play to give Mids a one-goal lead with two minutes of the half remaining.

Mids dominated the second half, with Mike Brearley running the game from central midfield. It was his first game of the season following an illness.

He scored the next two goals for Mids. The first after a dribbling run and shot from a narrow angle, the second from a short corner flick. He was unlucky not to complete a hat-trick when a further goal was disallowed for dangerous play following a short corner.

Ottery scored a consolation goal in the dying minutes of the game, giving Mids a deserved 3-1 victory.

**Minehead 3rd XI** 3  
**Mid-Somerset 3rd XI** 3

Mids travelled to Minehead and were fortunate not to play in the same conditions as the second eleven.

Being two goals down at half time, skipper Malcolm Chorlton made some positional changes which brought instant results. Goals from John Price and Chorlton brought the scores level before Minehead scored again.

However, Mids never gave up and were rewarded with a deserved 3-3 draw when Matt Pope scored the deciding goal of the game.

**Mid-Somerset 2nd XI** 2  
**Sidmouth 2nd XI** 3

Mid-Somerset were unlucky not to earn a draw against high-flying Sidmouth at Wells on Saturday.

They dominated the second half and, after drawing level, the home team conceded a penalty corner goal which cost them a point.

The game was late starting as only four Sidmouth players were present at the scheduled start time. When the rest of their team arrived, there was only time for 30 minutes in each half.

Mids got off to the best of possible starts with a goal from a well-hit short corner strike by last year's captain Steve Dowden inside the first 10 minutes.

However, the experienced Sidmouth team came back into the game and took advantage of two defensive mistakes to take a half-time lead.

Mids took the game to their opponents in the second half and after some good work by Simon Lord, Mike Davies was able to level the scores at two goals apiece.

Mids looked the more likely to score and Shaun Plenty was denied the best opportunity when he was upended by the visitors' keeper but Mids were unable to convert the resulting short corner.

Special thanks go to Wells City Acorns who provided the two umpires for the game.

**North Devon 3rd XI** 1  
**Mid-Somerset 3rd XI** 4

Mids played with 10 men in this near top of the table match.

Their plan was to attack from the start and this proved successful with a series of Mids raids, resulting in a well-struck Luke Branley goal early on.

North Devon came back, however, and scored an equaliser before half time.

Mids changed tactics in the second half with the aim of keeping more possession in the midfield. The strategy worked with Matt Pope providing the dummy to let in Luke Branley for his second goal.

This gave Mids the confidence to push forward and further goals came from John Price and Matt Horsham to put the result beyond doubt.

**South East Div I**

Taunton CS	5	4	1	0	24	5	13
Taunton Vale A	5	4	0	1	18	8	12
Isca C	5	4	0	1	13	5	12
ECV Hornets A	5	2	2	1	10	9	8
Bridport Hawks	5	2	1	2	15	11	7
North Devon	5	2	1	2	12	12	7
Bridgwater A	5	1	2	2	4	12	5
Exeter Uni B	5	1	1	3	4	11	4
Mid Somerset	5	1	0	4	2	12	3
Taunton Vale B	5	0	0	5	7	28	0

**South East Div II**

East Devon A	5	4	1	0	27	4	13
Torbay A	5	3	1	1	11	5	10
Dawlish A	5	3	0	1	13	10	9
Sidmouth A	5	3	0	2	12	5	9
Taunton CS A	5	3	0	2	10	9	9
ECV Hornets B	5	1	0	3	10	7	3
Exmouth A	5	1	0	3	7	17	3
Ottery Crickets A	5	0	0	5	2	21	0

**South East Div III**

Chard A	5	4	1	0	24	8	13
Chudleigh A	5	3	2	0	9	3	11
North Devon A	5	3	0	1	24	4	9
Minehead A	5	3	0	1	9	7	9
Yeovil & Sherb C	5	3	0	1	13	7	6
Isca D	5	2	0	1	6	6	6
Bridgwater B	5	2	0	3	9	13	6
Exmouth B	5	1	0	2	7	9	3
East Devon B	5	1	0	4	11	21	3
Taunton CS B	5	0	1	3	5	17	1
Torbay B	5	0	0	5	5	27	0

**South East Div IV**

Exeter Uni C	5	5	0	0	24	4	15
Torbay C	5	4	0	0	19	2	12
Bridport Hawks A	5	3	0	1	20	5	9
Seale Hayne	5	3	0	2	18	11	9
Dawlish B	5	2	1	2	16	8	7
Mid Somerset B	5	2	1	1	16	0	7
Sidmouth B	5	2	0	2	4	7	6
North Devon B	5	2	0	3	14	20	6
East Devon C	5	1	0	3	7	13	3
ECV Hornets C	5	1	0	3	6	20	3
Minehead B	5	0	2	3	7	25	2
Bridgwater C	5	0	0	5	3	27	0

**South East Div I**

Taunton CS	7	5	1	1	30	11	16
Taunton Vale A	6	5	0	1	20	7	15
Isca C	6	5	0	1	19	8	15
North Devon	7	3	2	2	19	14	11
Bridgwater A	7	3	2	2	12	13	11
ECV Hornets A	7	2	2	3	11	14	9
Exeter Uni B	7	2	2	3	10	14	8
Bridport Hawks	6	2	1	3	15	16	7
Mid Somerset	6	1	0	5	3	15	3
Taunton Vale B	7	0	0	7	8	35	0

**South East Div II**

East Devon A	7	6	1	0	32	7	19
Torbay A	7	5	1	1	22	7	16
Sidmouth A	7	5	0	2	19	7	15
Taunton CS A	7	5	0	2	16	11	15
Dawlish A	6	3	0	3	14	11	9
Yeovil & Sherb B	6	2	0	4	16	10	6
ECV Hornets B	6	2	0	4	9	14	6
Exmouth A	6	2	0	4	11	23	6
Mid Somerset A	7	2	0	5	11	32	6
Ottery Crickets A	7	0	0	7	3	31	0

**South East Div III**

Chard A	6	5	1	0	25	9	16
North Devon A	6	5	0	1	37	5	15
Yeovil & Sherb C	6	4	0	2	26	16	12
Chudleigh A	6	3	3	0	11	5	12
Minehead A	6	4	0	2	14	9	12
Isca D	6	3	0	3	13	16	9
East Devon B	7	2	1	4	17	23	7
Bridgwater B	7	2	1	4	9	17	7
Taunton CS B	6	1	1	4	10	24	4
Exmouth B	5	1	0	4	10	24	3
Torbay B	7	0	1	6	6	31	1

**South East Div IV**

Exeter Uni C	7	7	0	0	38	5	21
Seale Hayne	7	5	0	2	33	11	15
Torbay C	6	4	1	1	21	7	13
Mid Somerset B	6	4	1	1	21	10	13
Bridport Hawks A	5	3	1	1	22	7	10
Dawlish B	7	3	1	3	20	10	10
Sidmouth B	6	2	0	4	4	15	6
North Devon B	7	2	0	5	15	32	6
Minehead B	6	1	2	3	11	25	5
Bridgwater C	7	1	1	5	10	30	4
ECV Hornets C	6	1	1	4	9	34	4
East Devon C	6	1	0	5	7	24	3

**Exmouth 2nd XI** 4  
**Mid-Somerset 2nd XI** 1

Mids made the trip to face an Exmouth side who the previous week were unable to raise a team and forfeited their game with Dawlish.

However, such is the fragilities of player availability, on Saturday they fielded a squad of 13 players and were able to operate two rolling substitutes throughout the game.

For the first 25 minutes the game was very

even. Mids' best attacks came down the right-wing, from Mike Davies, and they were unlucky not to take the lead as the Exmouth goalkeeper pulled off two one-handed saves.

Mids then suffered a double blow, conceding two goals in the space of a minute, and arrived at half time three goals in arrears.

Mids took the game to Exmouth in the second half and soon pulled a goal back, when Struan Hasta scored his first goal for the club, scoring after his first shot rebounded off the keeper's pads.

Davis and Simon Lord had chances in the second half, which they were unable to convert and, with just five minutes of the game remaining, a defensive mistake allowed Exmouth to score a simple goal and wrap up a 4-1 victory.

**Mid-Somerset 3rd XI** 2  
**Dawlish 3rd XI** 0

This was a game dominated by the visitors and it would have been difficult for supporters to envisage any other result than a Dawlish victory.

However, despite their numerous attempts on goal, they were unable to score and Mids converted two of their rare opportunities to give themselves a 2-0 league victory with goals from Matt Pope and Dan Poole.

Man of the match for Mids was goalkeeper Bob Seddon who kept the Dawlish attack at bay and produced a fine diving save to stop the visitors from converting a short corner.

# Pressure fails to tell

**Dawlish 2nd XI** 5  
**Mid-Somerset 2nd XI** 2

Mid-Somerset were unlucky to reach half time two goals in arrears as they had numerous chances to score but found the Dawlish goalkeeper in fine form.

Jim Kench, Gavin Patey and teenage debutant Luke Branley all had goal bound shots excellently saved by the home keeper.

Centre half Brian Malone made several telling passes as Mids kept the pressure on the home defence, but they were unable to score.

Dawlish, on the other hand, only had three shots on goal, but were successful in converting two of them.

The talking point of the second half was the lack of lights in one corner of the pitch. An early evening start made the need for lights essential and the umpires were all set to abandon the game in the second half.

After a 10-minute stoppage, two of the lights eventually came on and the game continued, to the delight of the Dawlish centre forward who completed a hat-trick.

Mids scored two goals, the first a well-taken strike by Branley and the second a penalty stroke from Malone after the keeper sat on the ball.

There was also an encouraging performance in defence from teenager Andy Moorhouse.

**Seale Hayne** 11  
**Mid-Somerset 3rd XI** 1

This was not the one-sided defeat the scoreline suggests.

The students from the agriculture college at Newton Abbott took full advantage of the fact Mids did not have one recognised defender in the side and even skipper Malcolm Chorlton had to abandon his normal forward position to play in defence.

The half time score was 4-1 with Mids' goal coming after good work down the right by Matt Pope.

Mids were unable to take advantage from any of the nine short corners they were awarded and, as heads dropped in the final stages of the game, Mids conceded a further five goals in the last 10 minutes of the game.

Despite this defeat, Mids can take comfort from their season to date, currently occupying fourth place in the league.