

Mid Somerset Hockey Club

Mid Somerset Hockey Club have started training for the 2001-2002 season at the Wells Blue School's artificial pitch.

Training is on Thursday evenings for men's and ladies' teams at 7.15pm.

The club is continuing to expand and is looking for players of all abilities. With three men's teams and one ladies' team there is room for all standards. The club is also looking to run an under-18s side.

Junior training commences on September 13 at 6.30pm.

On Saturday (September 8), all three men's teams are in action against Millfield

sides at Street. The first and second teams play at 3.30pm on the Butleigh Road artificial pitches and the third team play at 12.45pm on the Somerton Road artificial pitch.

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Mid Somerset Hockey Club

Mid Somerset played their traditional opening fixtures of the season on the water-based artificial pitches at Millfield School, Street.

The first XI welcomed back Pete McGilvary after a two-year injury absence and had a new captain in Steve Dowden. There were debuts for Roger Knise and Andy Berry.

Unfortunately, the team did not get the season off to the start they wanted, with a 2-1 defeat against Millfield's under-16 side.

Martin White gave Mids the lead, but Millfield equalised before half-time and scored the only goal in the second half.

The second XI played a Millfield Colts XI, a fixture which is normally fairly even. However, this year the Colts were no match for Mids who emerged 9-1 winners.

Star of the game was teenager Luke Branley who scored five goals. There were also two for Tom Petherbridge, one from his father Terry and one from Adam Dudd, who made an impressive debut.

The thirds played an under-14 XI. The Millfield youngsters gave an impressive display of their skills and were unlucky to lose by the odd goal.

Mids deserved something from the game, especially after a penalty stroke hit the post and rolled along the goal-line before being cleared by keeper Charlie Medleycott.

Mids' goals in a 3-2 victory were scored by Luke Branley and the Bown brothers, Tony and Alex.

● Mid Somerset Hockey Club are quietly optimistic about the new campaign.

After a few barren seasons when the club could barely raise two sides, they have moved forward so much that last season they fielded three league teams on a regular basis.

This time the club are again playing with three league sides, but are still looking to increase their playing membership and attract more youngsters.

More than 30 junior players attend training at Wells Blue School on Thursday evenings from 6.30pm. The seniors also train at the school on Thursdays at 7.30pm.

Anyone interested in joining the club or for more information can contact Malcolm Chorlton, tel: (01749) 860570.

Subscriptions for the season are £40 for adults and £20 for juniors/students, with a £5 reduction for early payment (before October 1).

Mid-Somerset Hockey Club

Mid-Somerset's first XI travelled to Filton to play Bristol thirds, a team that had recently merged with the University of the West of England.

This was their first game in the new format and the team included four students from the university.

Mids dominated the early part of the game and took the lead after 10 minutes when Roger Knife scored his third goal in two games.

The away team continued to take the game to their opponents but the course of play changed before half-time with a

back injury to skipper Steve Dowden. Mids effectively played the second half with 10 players, enabling Bristol to come back into the game and score a second-half equaliser in a 1-1 draw.

The seconds entertained Old Bristolians and, for the second week running, came up against a goalkeeper in fine form. He made a fine save from Terry Petherbridge early in the first half and then thwarted Mids for the rest of the game.

The first half was scoreless, but the visitors scored early in the second period.

Mids were unlucky not to equalise after Luke Branley hit the post, Steve Cox shot wide and Simon Lord had successive shots saved by the keeper. Old B's added a second in the dying minutes to gain a 2-0 victory.

The third XI were the only winning Mids team with a comfortable 5-0 victory over Millfield Under-14s at Street.

Mids took the opportunity to play a number of teenagers. Two debutants, James Payne and Stephen Tinnion, scored on their first appearance. There was also a brace of goals for Gavin Patey and the fifth was scored by skipper Malcolm Chorlton.

Goalkeeper Michael Collins was also making his debut. Although he did not have a lot to do, he did show some good positional play and kept a clean sheet.

● Saturday (October 6) sees the start of the new league season. The first XI travel to Bridport, leaving Street at 10am. The seconds entertain Ottery Crickets at Wells (1.30pm), while the thirds travel to Teignmouth to play Seale Hayne, leaving Glastonbury at 10.30am.

Mid-Somerset Hockey Club

In a strange coincidence, Mid-Somerset's first and second XIs had identical finishes, as they both scored with the last hit of the game to earn deserved draws.

The first XI entertained Chard, a team from a higher division (South Division 2) and it was the visitors who took rather a fortuitous lead.

Mids dominated the second half in their quest for an equaliser and it was not until the dying seconds of the game that the goal was scored. Although the umpires had blown for time, the game could not be completed until the final short-cornet was taken. From this Dan Durston converted to give Mids a 1-1 draw.

Man of the match was defender Andy Rogers.

In the second XI game at Chard, the home side went 3-2 up in the first minutes of the second half. Despite constant pressure, Mids looked unlikely to score until they were awarded a short-cornet in the dying seconds. Ian Bloomfield's shot was deflected off a defender's stick to give Mids a 3-3 draw.

Mids were behind twice in the first half, but drew level on both occasions to end the first half at 2-2. Luke Bramley scored the first after being put through by Terry Petherbridge, while Petherbridge hit the second after a good run and pass from Steve Cox.

The third XI had the best result of the day, romping to a five-goal victory over Chard thirds.

The pace of Matt Horsham brought the only goal of the first half, but Mids dominated the second after a Chard player had been sent off.

Horsham added a second, while there were also goals for Martin White, Tony Bown and skipper Malcolm Chorlton.

● On Saturday (September 22), Mid-Somerset have three games against North Somerset. The firsts leave Street at 1pm for Portishead, the seconds play at Wells at 1.30pm and the thirds are also at home, starting at 3pm.

Mid-Somerset Hockey Club

Mid-Somerset's first XI were the only win-

ners in their league last week, as all the other games were drawn.

This enabled them to consolidate their early leader's position in the home game with Exeter Hornets.

In an exciting first half, Mids dominated the play and converted their scoring opportunities to lead 3-0 at half-time. Pete McGilvary opened the scoring after a short-cornet shot had been saved by the keeper. Terry Petherbridge and Roger Knife broke away for the latter to score the second, while McGilvary hit the third after a run down the right-wing by Mike Davis.

The visitors came more into the game in the second half, but Mids' cause was not helped by the sending offs of both Petherbridge and Greg Durston.

Hornets scored a late consolation goal, but Mids were worthy 3-1 winners.

The seconds played Yeovil C at Sherborne in temperatures more akin to mid-summer.

The home side took an early lead after just three minutes, and it took most of the half for Mids to equalise. They got back into the game when Ian Broomfield's shot was deflected off a Yeovil defender's stick with just two minutes of the half remaining.

Having equalised, Mids proceeded to lose the game by conceding two more goals, in the two minutes remaining.

Mids dominated the second half, but were unable to convert any of the numerous short-cornets they were awarded.

In reply, Yeovil did not get a second-half short-cornet, but their forward Kevin Vickers did score his fourth of the game in a 4-1 victory for his team.

Mid-Somerset Hockey Club

With the league season fast approaching, Mid-Somerset Hockey Club played three friendly games with their neighbours from Portishead, North Somerset.

The first XI made one change from the side that drew with Chard last week, Terry Petherbridge replacing the unavailable Andy Berry.

It was Petherbridge that gave Mids a first-half opening goal, with the help of a deflection off a defender's stick, but this lead was shortlived as the home side equalised before half-time.

However, in the second half Mids were at last able to convert some of the chances they had been creating. With a brace of goals from Roger Knife, the team were able to record their first victory of the season 3-1.

In the second XI game there was a stalemate as Mids were unable to beat the visiting goalkeeper, who made a number of excellent saves and was solely responsible for denying Mids victory.

The home side dominated the first half and the front three of Luke Branley, Alex Bown and Ian Broomfield were all guilty of missing chances.

North Somerset came more into the game in the second half and gave Mids' defence a few problems, but neither side were able to score.

The third XI match was also played at Wells, and featured the two goalkeepers who played in the second XI game.

North Somerset's goalkeeper again put in a heroic display and kept the Mids attack at bay for long periods.

The visitors took an early lead, but Mids equalised before half-time when Malcolm Chorlton lifted the ball over the prostrate keeper.

North regained the lead in the second half with a fine individual goal, after which Gavin Patey nearly equalised, but his shot rebounded off the post.

With only a minute remaining, debutant Richard Searle swept the ball into the net for a final score of 2-2.

● Saturday's (September 29) fixture for the first team is away to Bristol, leaving Street at 2pm.

The second XI entertain Old Bristolians at Wells, starting at 1.30pm, the thirds play at Millfield School, Street, at 1pm.

Sunday (September 30) sees the first social of the season with a skittles evening at the Britannia Inn, Wells, meeting at 7pm for a 7.30pm start.

Mid-Somerset's most convincing victory of the day belonged to the third XI. They put seven past Exeter Hornets C to record their first league victory of the season.

They were 5-0 up at half-time with a hat-trick for Gavin Patey and brace for John Price.

In the second half, Tony Bown made it six before Hornets scored their one goal. The best was reserved for last with Simon Lord adding a goal as Mids recorded a 7-1 victory.

Special mention to 14-year-olds Jonathan Crees and Stephen Tinnion who both played well.

● On Saturday (October 20), Mid-Somerset's first XI travel to Taunton Civil Service, leaving Street at 10am. The seconds entertain Taunton CS at Wells at 1.30pm. The thirds are away to Minehead, leaving Glastonbury at 11.15am.