

1st XI

**BACK ROW**

ANDY ROGERS  
BRIAN MALONE  
DARREN WILSON  
PETE MCGILVARY  
ROGER KNIFE  
TERRY PETHERBRIDGE

**FRONT**

MARTIN SALVIDGE  
ANDY BERRY  
MIKE COLLINS  
STEVE DOWDEN  
GARY SQUIRE  
MARTIN WHITE



The Mid Somerset men's hockey team who are challenging for the South East Division 1 championship

Photo by Andrew Chamberlain

**North Devon 1st XI 0**

**Mid Somerset 1st XI 0**

In this top of the table clash at Barnstaple, a stalemate ensued as leaders North Devon were held by a Mid Somerset side playing out their second consecutive goalless draw.

Although Mids have been playing well recently, they were conscious that they have not been scoring enough goals and as a result they changed their starting line up. Andy Berry moved up from midfield to centre forward, while skipper Steve Dowden moved into central midfield.

There was little to choose between the two teams, who both had good and bad spells. However, it was the defences that dominated and Mids back four of Gary Squire, Brian Malone, Andy Rogers and Mark Salvidge all played well. This was particularly evident in the last quarter of the game when Mids were down to nine players, as both Terry Petherbridge and Martin White were sent-off. Mids did well to defend numerous short corners and fully deserved a share of the points. Mids are at home to Exeter University on Saturday, starting at 1.30 pm at the Blue School.

**Mid Somerset 2nd XI 0**

**Yeovil 3rd XI 5**

Yeovil are pushing for promotion and they met an out-of-sorts Mids while they, on the other hand, put in their best performance of the season to run out comfortable winners. The visitors were two goals up at half-time, but Mids did have chances to score, the best opportunity falling to Ian Bloomfield, while Gareth Searey was also unlucky.

In the second half Yeovil added a further three goals, but Dan Durston and Matt Pope were presented with goal scoring opportunities which warranted better finishes.

Special thanks to Dan for replacing his brother Greg at short notice and to Alex Bown, who also played at short notice, when it was realised that Mike Davis had gone with the first team to Barnstaple. This Saturday the seconds travel to Exeter Hornets leaving Glastonbury at 1.30pm.

**Mid Somerset 3rd XI 1**

**Torbay 4th XI 0**

This was always going to be close with Torbay pushing for promotion and Mids so far unbeaten

this year. Mids form has given them a good chance of avoiding relegation and they recorded their third consecutive league victory courtesy of a one goal win. The sides were evenly matched and the first half brought little in the way of goal-mouth action. Torbay had a goal disallowed for being hit outside the circle, while Mids first shot came from Gavin Patey after 28 minutes.

The vital goal came six minutes into the second half. Some good teamwork in the 22 between Jody Wood and Lee Richards, set up Patey who took the simplest of chances to give Mids the lead. The last five minutes of the game was marred by a head injury to Mark Smith, which required an ambulance and a trip to Yeovil Hospital.

**Mid Somerset 1st XI 1**

**Exeter University 3rds 3**

Mids lost their unbeaten home record in league games this season when the students from Exeter University completed the double over the 1st XI, with a three goals to one victory.

Mids have now probably lost any hopes they had of gaining the one automatic promotion place, but there is still a possibility of a play-off place. This however depends on the last game of the season when Mids' two promotion contenders, Exeter Hornets and North Devon, play one another. Mids did not get off to the best of starts as the University scored in the first five minutes and added a second before half-time.

Mids half-time team talk emphasised the need to close the students down and do more chasing and this soon provided dividends. Pete McGilvary pulled a goal back with a good shot from the edge of the circle and, with Martin White working hard in midfield, Mids were hopeful of an equaliser. However, in pressing forward Mids left themselves open at the back and Exeter sealed the game with their third goal in the dying minutes.

The 1st XI entertain Torbay at Wells on Saturday, starting at 1.30 pm.

**Mid Somerset 1st XI 3**

**Yatton 4**

On Sunday Mids entertained Yatton in the Somerset Plate Cup and the visitors started the match strongly.

Against the run of play the first goal came from Mid Somerset's youngster Martin White, who having been moved from his usual half-back duties to centre forward took the chance well.

Mids then dominated the game for the next 45 minutes scoring twice more, one from skipper Steve Dowden and one from the hard working left wing Jody Wood. With 20 minutes to go and leading three goals to nil it all looked a formality, but Mids conspired to lose the game in spectacular fashion. Yatton camped in the Mid Somerset half for nearly all the last twenty minutes and scored their fourth and winning goal in the 68th minute.

Many thanks to Peter Hume and Richard Lord for stepping in at short notice, both had excellent games.

**Exeter Hornets 3rds 3**

**Mid Somerset 2nds 2**

On leaving the field after the game a Hornets' defender commented that Mids deserved to take something from this game, but not for the first time this season, Mids emerged pointless after putting in another good team performance.

They weathered early Hornets' pressure by successfully defending six short corners and then took the lead with their first short corner. A strike from Ian Bloomfield was deflected past the keeper by Matt Pope.

One each at half-time soon became 3-1 as the home team dominated the early stages of the second half. After this, Mids came back into the game and pulled a goal back from skipper Jon Sawyer. Mids pressed hard for the equaliser with both Luke Branley and Adam Dudd having good chances to strike back, but their shots missed the target. Mids therefore had to settle for a 3-2 defeat.

Mids travel to Devon again on Saturday, for Exmouth, leaving Glastonbury at 12.30 pm.

**Dawlish 3rds 3**

**Mid Somerset 3rds 3**

Top of the table Dawlish were playing their final league game of the season, knowing that a victory would crown them as Champions of the division.

They were more than confident when they led

by three goals to one early in the second half, but Mids thirds have been on a good run themselves recently, and spoilt Dawlish's script. An excellent comeback saw Mids pull a goal back with a penalty stroke from captain Malcolm Chorlton and, with five minutes remaining, equalised with a goal from debutant Jody Wells. Mids pressed hard for the winner in the final minutes, but the game ended at three goals each. Dawlish now have to rely on second placed Torbay not winning their final game of the season if they are to finish top of the league. The first half saw an excellent goalkeeping performance from teenager Dan Poole and a goal for midfielder Richard Searle. Mids entertain Seale Hayne on Saturday starting at 12.00 pm at Wells.

**Mid Somerset 1st XI 7**

**Torbay 2nd XI 2**

In the penultimate league game of the season and for the first time since the turn of the year, Mid Somerset rediscovered their scoring touch with a comprehensive victory over Torbay. However, with other results going against them, Mids have lost out on the chance of automatic promotion, but a play-off place remains a possibility.

The match started well for Mids and the game was effectively over by half-time, as the home side opened up a five-

goal lead. Jody Hooper was given a first team debut in defence, in place of the injured Gary Squire, and Mids started with Martin White and Roger Knife up front, with both responding with two apiece. Pete McGilvary and Luke Branley playing wide of midfield, each got goals, while the other goal came from Andy Berry.

Torbay scored twice in the second half but it was only token resistance, as Mids ran out worthy winners.