

Mid Somerset Hockey Club

After gaining promotion to Division Three of the Bristol Summer Hockey League last year, Mid-Somerset 1st XI men's hockey team were expecting a tough time. However, they performed admirably to finish the summer season in a comfortable mid-table position.

Andy Berry, who captained the side, was very pleased with his team's all-round effort and commitment over the past three months.

Mids lost their opening game but came back strongly to finish with five wins, one draw and four losses. The most notable victory came in a 6-2 away thrashing of the pre-season favourites, Robinsons from Bristol.

The team's top scorer was Roger "Poacher" Knife who finished with 15 goals and he will now go on to captain Mids winter 1st XI.

Berry expressed his thanks to all team members, especially Colin Crees and Malcolm Chorlton who umpired many games both home and away. Special mention also went to the players who helped out at short notice.

After winning the play-off final last season for promotion to South Division One, only to be denied promotion due to changes in the league's structure, the team will be looking to secure automatic promotion this year and hopefully the experience gained in the summer will help Mids to achieve their goal.

A reminder to players of all teams including the ladies, there will be a barbecue on Saturday, August 17

at Brindham Farm, Wick from 5pm onwards. Any queries please phone Andy Berry on mobile 07974 377952 or Kate House on mobile 07968 411272.

McGilvary fires in four for Mids

Mid Somerset Mens Hockey

The winter season has started again for Mid Somerset with the traditional opening fixtures on the artificial pitches of Millfield School.

It was a wonderful start for Pete McGilvary, who in the first team game against Millfield School 2nd XI, scored four goals in a 5-2 victory. Mids took a five goal lead with Andy Berry scoring the fifth, before the school responded with two late goals.

There was a Saturday debut for Will Steel, a good defensive performance from Mark Salvidge, while there were cards for new skipper Roger Knife and defender Gary Squire.

The seconds played Millfield under-16s who, against the run of play, twice took the lead only for Mids to equalise. Mids first was scored by Jon Sawyer who turned and shot to level the scores at 1-1, while Simon Lord scored the second.

Millfield's winner came 10 minutes from time with possibly the best goal of the game, but they can thank keeper Ollie Taylor for their 3-2 victory. One save from Lord in the first half was exceptional.

Ben Dormer had a good debut in midfield and prompted many Mids' attacks.

The third XI played the School's under-14s. Mids' side was a mixture of youth and veterans.

Much of the game was evenly contested, but Mids managed to win by two goals to nil. They scored a goal in each half. The first was scored by 15-year-old debutant Ben Underdown, while the second was scored by another 15-year-old, Stephen Tinnion.

● Club coaching takes place on Thursday evenings on the astroturf pitch at the Blue School, Wells. Juniors start this week from 6.30pm-7.30pm, while senior training, including ladies, follows from 7.30pm-8.30pm.

This season the club will be running four men's sides and if anyone is interested in playing they can either go along on Thursday night or contact Paul Salvidge on (01749) 673930.

Chard 1 Mid-Somerset 2

This game could well have been a league match this season, but despite winning their play-off, Mids were prevented from joining the same league as Chard due to the League's re-organisation.

However, Mids were pleased with their two goals to one victory in this friendly and proved to themselves that promotion in their own right is in their own hands this season.

Chard took the lead and should have gone two up, but they failed to convert a penalty stroke. Mids responded immediately and from their next attack were awarded a stroke of their own, which Andy Rogers converted.

Mids' deciding goal resulted from a good run by Martin White, which set up Dan Durston for a simple winner.

Mid-Somerset 2nd XI 1 Chard 2nd XI 1

This was very much a game of two halves. Mids dominated the first half but only had one goal to show for their efforts.

Ben Dormer collected the ball on the 22 line and took it into the circle, and past the advancing goalkeeper to give Mids an early lead. Despite plenty of forward play Mids were unable to add to their tally.

Chard game right back into the game in the second half and had plenty of territorial advantage which eventually brought an equalising goal with 10 minutes remaining.

Mids did have the better chances to win the game in the dying minutes with Alex Bown, Jon Sawyer and Dormer all missing the target.

Chard 3rd XI 2 Mid-Somerset 3rd XI 4

The thirds made it two wins in two games with a well-deserved victory at Chard against a team comprising mainly veterans.

Mids scored four goals and were never behind in the game. Chard did level at one each but Mids scored three more goals before Chard got a consolation in the closing min-

utes. Mids' veteran John Price scored twice, while the other two came from 15-year-olds Ian Whitcombe and Lee Richards.

Whitcombe had a good game on the left wing, while there was a promising debut from another teenager Howard Thompson.

Club coaching continues on Thursday evenings on the astro pitch at the Blue School, Wells.

Juniors 6.30-7.30pm, while senior training (including the ladies) follows from 7.30-8.30pm. This Saturday sees four Mids mens teams in action.

The firsts entertain North Somerset at Wells starting at 1.30pm, the seconds and thirds travel to Portishead to play North Somerset, while the fourths start with a home game against Bridgwater 5th XI at 3.00pm.

Bridgwater Ladies 1 Winscombe Ladies 1

In this early morning game, Winscombe faced a newly-promoted Bridgwater side.

Winscombe started well but could not break down a strong Bridgwater defence. Bridgwater were awarded many controversially penalty corners in the first half but Kelly Eagle single-handedly broke down Bridgwater's routines. Bridgwater were first to score though after some desperate defending by Winscombe.

The second half saw Winscombe making Bridgwater look a league below them with some superb midfield play. Captain Helen Ekin played in front of the defence, aiding the midfield of Nicky Mills, Alex Burns and Sharon Schofield.

Bridgwater had few attacks in the second half, but were thwarted each time by Eagle, Kirsty McLuckie, Caroline Marsh, and keeper Vicky Hewish. Vicky Burns comfortably put the ball through the keeper's legs to equalise in the dying minutes after some excellent link up play with Kate Randle.

Bridgwater tried desperately to string some kind of attack together but Winscombe played well to keep the ball in their opponents half for the rest of the game.

Thanks go to Margaret for umpiring a tough game, and well done to Kirsty McLuckie and Kate Lynham playing only their second game for Winscombe's first team.



IAN BLOWFIELD - MIDS (LEFT)