

Alex Hill Memorial Tournament
Dereham Hockey Club
29 March 2015
On a windy and rainy day....

U10 boys A

Manager: Crossy
Harvey Nkrumah
Ben Panter
Edward Cross
Freddie Royall
Jake Reynolds (captain)
James Cross
Sam Reynolds
Theo Korn (GK)
Tom Jackson

Dragons Vs Pelicans (5-0)

The game was played on a slow sandy pitch where we might have brought our buckets and spades rather than our hockey sticks. However, we started the tournament well with some fluid moves, forcing several early saves from the Pelican's keeper. Dragons scored after 3 minutes when a shot from James Cross was saved and Jake Reynolds scored from the rebound.

From here on in it was constant pressure from the Dragons and this told again when James crossed the ball and it was diverted into the net by a Pelican's defender for a two nil lead. Freddie Royall went on to win a tenacious short corner from which James' flick shot hit the post. Minutes later Freddie went on to smash in a pull back from James for the third. Eat my goal!!

The short corner routines were working well and Eddie Cross scored the fourth with a nice low strike from distance. James Cross rounded off the scoring with a well-aimed flick shot for the fifth.

Dragons Vs Norwich City (3-0)

The game couldn't have started any better, with James Cross scoring after 8 seconds (I timed it honest) with a mazy dribble from the half-way line and a calm finish. The early goal allowed Dragons to play with freedom and the passing and movement was excellent. The second goal came from a short corner routine where James passed to Ben Panter, who in turned moved the ball on to Jake Reynolds to apply the finish (tap-in!). The third goal came from some good pressure from Harvey, forcing an error from a City defender, allowing Jake to score a 'sniffers' goal (Dragons players were queuing up).

Dragons Vs Dereham (2-0)

Again it was all Dragons with plenty of territory and possession. Ben and Jake were having a lot of joy out wide, with a number of chances coming from pull backs. The Dereham keeper was forced into a number of early saves but was finally beaten when a cross pin-balled around the D before being steered in by Jake Reynolds. The few attacks Dereham did attempt to launch were quickly snuffed out by the defence of Tom and Eddie. James Cross continued to test the keeper with shots from short corners but the goal minder (is that ice-hockey?) foiled him on several occasions. Finally, the constant pressure told when Freddie Royall swept in the ball from close range for a two-nil victory.

Then the heavens opened and rain stopped play. The tournament was curtailed and the final, Dragons Vs Dereham, cancelled. Dragons were awarded the tournament victory with three wins out of three, ten goals for and none against. Another successful outing, providing further preparation for the regionals.

U10 Boys B Team

Manager: Steve Linford

Bertie Pinching

Oscar Holt

Jack Foulger Wills

Alex Marjoram (captain)

Max Nicholls (GK)

Monty Patel

Oliver Ruddling

Rahul Kaushal

Max Linford

Game 1 – Norwich Dragons 2 Norwich City 0

After a tentative start within a few minutes Dragons soon got into the game and dominated. Good defensive work at the back by Monty and Oliver with some excellent passes out relieved some early pressure. Max worked hard in the middle breaking up some City passing and dribbles and passing well to his team mates. The boys at the front were gelling well with Bertie making some good runs on the right and Jack making some strong dribbles through the middle. Max made a good stop in goal. Soon after this the first goal came on around 9 mins from a good Monty dribble, a pass down the middle which Alex controlled, went through 3 City players and slotted away. The second came soon after with another goal by Alex from a pass made by Bertie. A good result and the team played well as a whole unit. Good passing, great individual stick work and some great defensive play and awareness.

Between Games

Whilst waiting for the next game the lads took on the responsibility to keep warm in the howling gales and driving rain themselves. Monty led an innovative and extremely robust routine. This involved climbing the grass bank and using the sticks aggressively (think axe chopping wood) to dig large lumps out of the ground. After about 10 minutes the boys tired of this for an as yet unexplained reason. I was told by the captain this routine resulted in a hockey ball getting stuck deep in the earth. Fortunately the boys teamed up to dig the ball out before the next game started. A clear demonstration of great teamwork and bonding on the day.

Game 2 Norwich Dragons 3 Watton 0

Sadly..... the earlier exercise routine backfired badly as the boys started very slowly looking a shadow of the team that played so well in the 1st game. After some strong defensive work by Oscar the rest of the team woke up and started to play well again. The first goal came from another Monty pass, a dribble and a shot by Alex which hit the post and Jack followed up to slot the ball in. Bertie was again doing some good work down the right, passing the ball across the goal and having a good shot saved. The second goal was excellent, Jack stole the ball, went through 3 Watton players and scored in the corner. The final goal was shared (I think?), Jack shot across goal and nudged in by Alex. The captain explained to me that they had agreed to share the goal. Overall Dragons dominated the game and we unlucky not to score more.

Game 3 – Dragons 0 City 0 – Match abandoned

Giving credit to both sets of players a brave band of brothers entered the field in the driving rain whilst a thunderstorm was moving in fast. The rain and wind was extreme and after about 3 minutes the players were pulled off just moments before they were to be peppered with large balls of hailstones. With the pitch resembling a shallow lake the game and tournament was stopped.

Dragons U10 B's won the Silver tournament

Well played to the team and it was obvious there is the making of some excellent players, some of which are playing 2 years above their age. All the parents agree that there has been significant improvement in the players and team

play which is credit to the children and most significantly to the coaches that have worked so hard with them over the season. On behalf of the parents and children please accept our sincere thanks.

Under 10 girls A Team

Manager- Bridget
Nola Mitchell (Gk)
Lilli Ballard (Captain)
Piper Hempsall
Amy Beadman
Mima Watson
Saskia Lee-Williams
Sofia K
Olivia Tighe



Dragons 0 – 0 Magpies

This was a fairly matched game throughout. After an early attack from the Magpies, the Dragons seems to hold possession well with Olivia and Piper making good runs up the win and a good effort by Mima from a short corner. It was then Magpies turn to attack again with Nola make some fantastic saves and the Dragons defence managing to hold the Magpies of to a 0-0 draw.

Dragons 0 – 1 Norwich City

The Dragons had to play defensively in this game from the start. They made a good save and an on the line clearance, but couldn't keep Norwich from scoring. Norwich continued to camp in our half but Amy and Sofia stood solid in defence and with midfield all back and working hard, they managed to stop them getting any more.

Dragons 4 – 0 Dereham

The Dragons went into this match looking dangerous from the start. They dominated play, all pushing forward and the goals soon came with Lilli scoring 3 and Mima 1.

Dragons 6 – 0 Pelicans

The girls played this match with great confidence. They attacked early and created several chances with a couple of very near misses! They kept the pressure on though and after scoring the first goal were unstoppable with Lilli scoring 2, Mima 3 and Saskia to finish on high.

The girls finished 3rd in the tournament. Overall an excellent performance and great team work!

U10 Girls B Team

Evie Marlee (Capt)
Georgia Cox-Kersley
Ella Peart
Nellie Ong
Rosemary Sheppard
Isabelle Woolley
Ellie Wagstaff

1st match Dragons v Magpies B;

We had to work really hard as a team against a strong Magpie side. We held firm in defence and the final score was 0-0.

2nd match Dragons v City C;

After the first match we all settled into our positions. Again we had to defend hard, Rosemary played really well in stopping a number of City shots. We did really well to only let in 1 goal. Final score 0-1.

3rd match Dragons v Watton;

This was our best match because we were so close to scoring 2 goals. Wattons defence was much improved. Georgia always had her eye on the ball and made some great passes. Final score 0-0.

Final match Dragons v City B;

We were really put to the test in this game. City B had a slightly stronger side, but the whole team did really well to keep the score down to 0-2. Well done to Ellie for coming back on despite being hit by the ball!

A special mention to the coaches who always do a great job and our supporters for cheering us on no matter what!

U12 Girls A Team

Tilly Connors-Beckett

Annabelle Hodgson

Harriet Marlee (Captain)

Charlotte Carr

Stella W-W

Beatrice Harrison

Sasha Armstrong

Lucy Buxton

Match 1 v Pelicans

Weather conditions were horrible however, we all played very well. Pelicans had very strong team. Our defence was put to the test. Lucy Buxton was a great sweeper and cleared some amazing shots from the opposition The end score was 1-0 to them.

Match 2 v City

After losing against Pelicans we came back fighting. After the first couple of minutes, Charlotte Carr had already got the ball into the D. After a few shots at goal, Charlotte had a sweep and it was flung into the goal. The final score was 1-0 to us.

Match 3 v magpies

In our match against Magpies, they had some very strong players. We battled hard and Tilly worked very hard to save some hard shots. Sasha and Stella were determined in defence. Unfortunately the end result was 5-0.

Match 4 v Dereham

Our final match was a great one, the game was very even at the start but then, we scored a goal. This goal gave us a boost and we carried on. In the last 30 seconds of the game, we were starting too tired and then a magnificent shot led to a goal for Dereham. The end result was 1-1.

U12 Girls B Team

Manager: one of the Robs

Poppy Heeds (GK)

Elissa Wood

Jennifer Cox Kersley

Sophie Barrow

Yllandah Brown

Niamh Somers

U12 Boys A Team

Manager: Owain Hall

Blue Hemsall

Alex Wolfe (GK)

Daniel Murphy

Isaac Diver Hall

William Bowman

Sam Jackson (captain)

Jonny Taylor

Match 1

Dragons A v Dragons B

Both teams fought hard and the game was very close. Great hockey played by both sides.

Final score 0-0

Match 2

Dragons A v Pelicans

Boys made a tentative start and went down 1-0 early in the game. However, a great come back and after some strong pressure, they equalised. A great response from the Pelicans saw them retake the lead. The boys continued to exert pressure and the Pelicans keeper was by far the busier of the two. If more chances had been taken the Dragons would have won comfortably.

Final score lost 2-1

Goal scorer:

Isaac

Match 3

Dragons A v Magpies

From start to finish both keepers were called into action and some excellent defending throughout the game.

However, the Magpies scored from a quick break away.

Another creditable performance.

Final score lost 1-0

Match 4

Dragons A v Dereham

A tight game which saw another spirited performance, but unfortunately the ball would not go into the goal.

Final score 0-0

Match 5

Dragons A v Norwich City A

The match was played in atrocious weather conditions, however, the Dragons made a quick start and took an early lead. They continued to dominate the game. Again, constant pressure saw the Dragons come away with a well deserved victory.

Final score of 5-0.

Goal scorers:

Isaac

Daniel

William

Final Match

Dragons A v Norwich City B

The boys were now well into their stride and a quick start to this game saw the boys take an early lead. The Dragons were in complete control and dominated the match. The scoreboard ticked over rapidly and they came away with an 8-0 victory.

Final score 8-0.

Goal scorers:

Isaac

Daniel

William

Jonny

U12 boys B team

Manager: Laura Tompson Wright

Arjuna

Bobby Sheppard

Tommy Chambers

Casper Lind (captain)

Harry Fuller

Alexander Brooks

Sam Archer

Toby Drake



Match 1:

At a wet and windy Dereham the tournament kicked off with an always competitive game with Dragons A. Some excellent defending by Alex and Arj, and outstanding goalkeeping by Theo kept the A's at bay and earned a deserved 0-0 draw.

Match 2:

In the next match Magpies took an early lead and continued to pressure the Dragon's goal but heroic goalkeeping from Alex this time kept the final score to just 1-0.

Match 3:

In the following game Pelis came flying out of the blocks and took a 3 goal lead. The boys never let their heads go down and some great runs from Toby and Tommy kept Pelis pegged back for the remainder of the match.

Match 4:

Not having a goalkeeper didn't prove an issue against City B. From the first whistle Dragon's pressured the City B goal with some excellent runs by Arj and Booby setting up chances for Harry and Sam. With time running out Arj popped up in the box to score the only goal and a deserved 1-0 victory.

Match 5:

Following a brief break in play for some biblical rain Dragons took on Dereham. Even with some great attacking play by Toby and runs by Casper and Bobby Dragons couldn't get the score they deserved. At the other end Alex and Tommy were solid in defense and ensured a 0-0 draw.

Match 6:

In the final game City A took an early lead which spurred Dragons into action. Following constant pressure through runs by Toby, Arj and Bobby the deserved goal finally came from Sam to level things up. Solid defending by Harry, Alex and Casper kept City out and secured a draw.

Well done to all the boys, especially as the weather was more conducive to sailing. Happy Easter to everyone.