

Watton Tournament
2 April 2017

U10 Girls Green Team

Anna Ong(Gk
Eva Eccles
Mae Hollis
Kiara Wetherhogg
Pepper Fothergill
Ella Creasy
Georgia Demetriou
Imogen Thomas(Capt)
Jennifer Markellos
Annie Gill

Manager
Mel Widdows

The Dragon Green team's first game in the Under 10 Silver competition was against Pelicans. A good team performance meant that Dragons had most of the play. The only goal of the game came when Imogen Thomas won the ball on the right. Her pass to Ella Creasy was fed into the circle where Pepper Fothergill ran in to score and secure a 1-0 win. The second game was a much tougher game against Dereham. Some good saves by Anna Ong and last ditch tackles by Annie Gill and Kiara Wetherhogg meant the game ended 0-0. An even game against Norwich City followed. Anna Ong was called into action again and Kiara Wetherhogg with Jennifer Markellos made sure of another clean sheet. At the other end the hard working Pepper Fothergill and Ella Creasy caused City problems and a good move between them found Eva Eccles whose shot went narrowly wide. A late goal clinched it when Eva Eccles found Mae Hollis who sprinted away from the City defence and finished neatly to get another 1-0 win. A 0-0 followed against Magpies Red. Annie Gill and Mae Hollis who filled in alongside Annie made sure Anna Ong had little to do. The closest to a goal came when Imogen Thomas won the ball and fed Eva Eccles. Good work down the right with Pepper Fothergill ended with a pass across the face of the Magpies goal where Imogen Thomas who started the move just failed to get the vital touch. A very good Magpies white team inflicted the only defeat. The team worked hard but they were too good and beat us 2-0 which could have been more if it wasn't for some good saves from Anna Ong in goal. The final match ended 0-0 against Watton where neither team really creating any opportunities. Our eventual tally of 2 wins, 3 draws and 1 loss meant we came 3rd. Great fun was had by the whole team who continue to improve. A big thank you to Mel who managed the team.



U10 Girls Red Team

Romilly McLaggan (GK)(Capt)

Sophie Reynolds

Chloe Holmes

Poppy Belderbos

Libby Ong

Estelle Widdows

Imogen Dolding

Josie Kell

Georgia Demetriou

The sun was shining for this spring tournament at Watton, we were in a pool of three teams – playing each team three times.

First up was Norwich City who put us under pressure from the very beginning and scored an early goal. We composed ourselves and got back into the game – Sophie and Estelle put in some great tackles and Chloe found space with brilliant passing. Libby made a great break into the circle late on in the game which gave Imogen a chance to shoot. Unfortunately, the ball just went wide so our first game ended up 1-0 to Norwich City.

Next up was Watton and this time we started faster and showed Watton what we could do. Chloe made some fantastic runs, passing to Josie who was brilliant on the wing. We won a series of short corners - Georgia forced one from some great play in the circle and then Chloe scored from another less than a minute later...we were winning! But Watton weren't giving up – now it was our turn to defend a few short corners and Poppy & Estelle were both strong in front of goal, making sure that Watton didn't equalise. Late on in the game, Josie & Georgia again combined well, pushing forward

up the pitch in a promising move but before anything more could happen...the hooter sounded! We won 1-0.

In the third game we played Norwich City again and Romilly showed some of her goalkeeping skills early on with great defence. After soaking up the pressure for what seemed like ages, Norwich City scored. We kept working for each other, though, with great attacking play from Georgia [Georgia's mum & dad shouting 'Come on, G!' from the touchline!] Unfortunately, Norwich City scored another goal making it 2-0. Again, we kept attacking – Chloe made some fantastic runs along the right wing, but it took a free hit from the edge of the circle from Josie to get us back into the game. It felt like we were on top again but the hooter once more sounded as we were putting together some ambitious moves. We lost 2-1.

In the fourth game we played Norwich City – this would be the last time we play them today. From the start of the game we had to put in some strong defending to stop Norwich City from scoring, but a couple of minutes in they managed to sneak a goal. We were not going to give up, though! Imogen made some great passes into space and Romilly's trusty left foot kept us in the game. We defended a couple of short corners really well before Poppy took away the pressure with a fine shot up field. Georgia made a run inside Norwich City's circle and...Josie scored! We earned a score draw against a very good Norwich City team.

In our penultimate game we lined up against the Watton team we had beaten in game two. But, hang on – these girls don't look like our opponents from earlier in the morning! Watton had fielded their U12 girls by mistake and in swapping to the correct team we lost a minute or so of this game. This was frustrating as the games are only seven minutes long! Anyway, we took the game to Watton with some brilliant runs along the left wing from Sophie, and some fantastic passing in midfield by Libby. Watton won a couple of short corners and Romilly made two trademark saves to prevent any Watton celebrations. We soaked up Watton's attack and won a couple of promising free hits close to their circle, finally winning a short corner that Imogen took with great skill. But it wasn't to be – not a bad result, though...it ended a no-score draw.

In our final game of the day we once more faced Watton, who won an early short corner which we defended really well. We showed positive intent at both ends of the pitch - Georgia was really strong on the left wing and Estelle showed us just how to defend wave after wave of attack. Unfortunately, a series of short corners brought Watton the goal they were looking for and, even though Josie forced their goalie to make a late save, this was to be the decisive score. We lost 1-0.

Despite coming third in our pool there were plenty of positives to take away from the day – we had played well, worked hard for each other and left everything out on the pitch! A team certificate and bag of Haribo proves that winning is great but taking part is just as important.

By
Romilly McLaggan.



U12 Boys A team

Max Nicholls – GK
Alex Marjoram
Ben Panter
Freddie Royall
Edward Cross
Jake Reynolds
Bertie Pinching
Harvey Nkrumah
Oliver Rudling

Dragons A finished runners up in the Watton Tournament.

Playing 7 minute games was always going to be tricky. Dragons started slowly & let slip an early goal v Magpies, the team dug in & thanks to Ben & Freddie clawed back to win, just in time! Game 2 v City, the team dominated but just couldn't score – the game ending 0-0 thanks to a couple of saves from Max.

Game 3 was a comfortable 4-0 victory v Watton with Jake scoring a couple plus Ollie Rudling & Bertie Pinching getting on the score sheet.

Game 4 v Pelicans saw a hard fought 2-0 victory, with the team managing to take their chances. Game 5 & 6 were both the same v City B & Dragons B – the team dominated but were unable to converted their chances. Dragons B keeper Finn & the City Keeper both having great games.

U12 Boys B Team

Finn Pond
David Braide
Ethan Wood
Will Bailey
Harry Skoulding
Sam Hancock
Raul Widdlesworth
Toby Jeckells
Manager: Johanne Steward

U12 boys 'brilliant B' team save the best till last!

On a beautiful afternoon in Watton the U12 boys B team faced a very strong line up in a mixed A and B team tournament. 7 teams and 6 matches to be played with the boys facing their club rivals, the A team in their last match.

With 15 minutes until the first match began we still only had just over half a team and no goal keeper! After a slight panic, relief came with the arrival of the rest of the squad. There was, however, no time for a team talk, or to mentally prepare, other than agreeing the starting line-up: Finn in goal, David and Ethan in defence, Sam, Raul and Harry in midfield and Toby up front. As the boys started their first game, against Norwich Vikings (City's B team), the lack of a pre match team talk was evident. With only 7 minutes per game, the boys struggled to get going, in a game they should have won, and were held to a 0 – 0 draw.

A 2 game break meant we could have that much needed team talk. Will replaced Harry – 7 minute games meant that one player would stay off for the whole game, making sure the boys didn't tire themselves out. The boys faced City's A team next – Norwich Romans – in what was a very different game and that team talk certainly worked! Playing an excellent game against a strong opposition and defending short corners perfectly, the boys lost 1 – 0, with a great goal by City, but heads were held high as players and manager alike were delighted with their performance.

Next up was Watton and the boys knew that this was their chance to score some goals. Watton fielded a number of girls in their team, who as it happens were their strongest players, but this didn't affect the boys who, once again, kept their focus and composure throughout. 2 goals came from short corners – full pelt from the top of the D by Sam – meaning the game was won 2 – 0. Magpies followed by Pelicans were the next 2 games – both similar in play and both finishing 0 – 0. The only difference being that the boys felt they should have beaten Pelicans.

Throughout the day the boys kept their focus and determination and put everything discussed in team talks into place right up until the very end when they faced Dragons U12 A squad in their last match. Determined not to give up without a fight, the boys played their best hockey of the day against their, very, local rivals, the U12 A team, holding them to a 0 - 0 draw, in what was a thrilling game. The smiles on their faces said it all. Unfortunately, the result lost the U12 A team the gold medal position but we finished a very respectable 4th place, conceding only 1 goal all tournament. Absolutely brilliant boys, great job.



U12 Girls A team

It was an early 8:30 arrival time but everyone was awake and raring to go! We started off the morning with a thankful win against Magpies. The goal showed how well the girls had improved as a team. Jemima had an excellent shot, which unfortunately hit the post but Rosie went and tapped it in to get us the goal. We managed to keep Magpies from scoring too.

Even though we only had three matches left there was very large gaps in between the games. The second match was an excellent game! Honey scored two goals in a row and Piper followed with another goal. Jemima finished off the match with an excellent goal, leaving all the girls proud of their success.

In the third match, we played our fellow Dragons B team. Lily scored a beautiful goal, followed with the only goal the we conceded, scored by Nellie, from the B team. Though we kept going with a goal from Jemima, finished off with a goal from Piper, the girls had really begun to click as they moved onto realising in the sun for an almost two hour break.

After Rob had woken us up, we all got up and went for a run, we were all set for the next game which we only scored once in, by Jemima, it was a tough match but all the girls were proud that we hadn't lost a single game, we all collected our medals (and sweets) and set off for home, to have won two tournaments in a row!

The team:

Jemima Watson
Piper Hemsall (C)
Lily Ballard
Hannah Majoram
Honey Wells
Nola Mitchell (GK)
Amy Beadmen

Rosie Smith
Freya Dolding

U10 Boys

Team Manager: Martin Taylor

- 1) Ayrton Rant
- 2) George Wilson (Capt)
- 3) Deeran Jayapragash
- 4) Finn Taylor
- 5) Milo Nicholls
- 6) Adam Kelsall
- 7) Jamie Fraser
- 8) Casper Holt
- 9) Billy Francis
- 10) Barney Berridge (GK)

Dragon's Firebreathers travelled to a sunny Watton Hockey tournament to do battle with familiar foes in the shape of Watton, Norwich City, Magpies and Pelicans. Dragons Firebreathers came in 4th out of 5 teams but could have come much higher if we had scored some of our many scoring chances.

Match 1. Vs Watton (Draw 0-0)

Dragon's first match was against Watton u10s which somehow ended in a draw despite Dragons dominating possession and statistics including 5 shots on goal and a short corner. Barney made some good saves from Watton's shots, George played a very solid game at centre half. Adam defended well finding some nice passes out of defence to Ayton on the left and Billy on the right wing who troubled Watton consistently.

Match 2 Magpies (lost 1-0)

This match was closely fought midfield battle with neither team creating many goalscoring chances. Magpies edged the goal opportunity statistics and critically managed to score one of their three shots. Finn, Caspar and Milo were effective as a forward trio, with Deeran pulling the strings in midfield and Jamie battling at the back.

Match 3. Norwich City (Lost 1-0)

Dragons conceded a goal after 30 seconds (City's only shot) which put the team on the back foot with an injury to Barney who recovered well to keep playing. Dragons had three shots and were unbelievably unlucky to have two of them squeeze past the post. Statistically, Dragons were the better side again, with 3 shots to Norwicks 1. Dragons played solidly with Deeran putting in some massive clearance hits from the back and George making some excellent runs at centre forward.

Match 4. Pelicans (Draw 0-0)

This was one of Dragons best performances, in which Dragons drew with pelicans U10 in a closely fought game. Despite the ferocity of the midfield battle, neither side had a shot on goal in open play.

Capsar and George were excellent at left back putting in tackle after tackle with Finn working hard in midfield and Deeran and Milo trying to prise open the defence up front.

