

2000-2001

Men's Club

Women's Club

(Last update 5 April 2001)

Men's

Division 2 North

31/03/01

Norwich Union 4

Spalding 4

Union started with purpose, but lacking some of the necessary subtlety. However, after a varied first 10 minutes the home side settled down and started to convert their pressure and possession into opportunities. At half time Union were 3-1 ahead through Wolfe (2) and Snelling. This domination was set to continue for most of the second half, and York-Smith added a fourth to seemingly put the game out of Spalding's reach. Union then went to sleep, assuming the game was won and conceded some soft goals, with the equaliser coming just before time.

Division 3 North East

31/03/01

Pelicans II 2

Norwich Union II 4

Pelican's started the game with only 10 men and Union duly took the lead when Parsons followed up a well saved shot from Gill. The home team were soon up to a full team but Union were playing with confidence and doubled their lead when Parsons was again in the right place to slot home. Pelican's had a number of short corners but a combination of poor finishing and good keeping by Ellis kept them at bay. Union got their third when Gill found McQuade in space and he confidently rounded the keeper and slotted home. Just before the end of the half Union made it 4-0 with a wonderfully disguised flick from Older. In the 2nd half Union were happy to sit on their lead but Pelican's kept fighting and managed to pull 2 goals back, with their keeper making some inspired saves to stop McQuade adding to Union's tally.

Division 4 North East

31/03/01

Norwich Union III 1

Bury St. Edmunds IV 1

A close fought end of season encounter with both sides taking a while to get going. After a scoreless first half Bury took the lead after a good shot from Morgan. Union battled back & when it seemed their efforts were going to go unrewarded Wilson popped up on the stroke of time to secure a point.

Division 3 North East

10/03/01

Lowestoft Town 3

Norwich Union II 3

A poor first half from Union left them trailing by 1 goal which soon became 3 after the break. However a spirited comeback saw Union score 3 goals in the final 20 minutes and almost snatch a winner. Norwich Union's goal scorers were Green (2) and Snelling.

Division 4 North East

10/03/01

Norwich Union III 3

Waveney 2

Norwich Union took an early lead from a short corner when Mike Banham put the injector Simon Garner clear at the near post. The lead was squandered when Union gave away a sloppy free hit and Roger Kemp was left unmarked in front of the keeper. After half time a fine Union move was rounded off by Chris Cox returning to hockey for his first game in 2001. Another short corner variation saw Carl Allred sneak in on the near post to put Union further ahead. Fine defensive work by Union keeper Chris Miller and skipper Banham, who turned 2 short corners around the post, kept Waveney at bay until Roger Kemp somehow managed to get on the end of a cross. Union had a converted short corner disallowed but held on to another victory.

Division 2 North

24/02/01

Royston 0

Norwich Union 5

The achievement of the team's second clean sheet was notable from this division 2 game. Union dominated the entirety of the game, and soon opened the scoring through Green, following some nice passing interchanges. Wolfe added a second from a similar move shortly afterwards, before Snelling struck twice to set up a 4 goal lead at the interval. Better concentration from Royston, and a mixture of poorer finishing and a more defensive outlook meant Union only added one more in the second half through Wolfe.

Division 3 North East

24/02/01

Norwich Union II 1

University of East Anglia 0

This was a close game with neither side having many open play chances due to some solid defending at both ends. Most of the chances came from short corners with UEA coming close several times but failing to convert. The 2nd half was much the same as the first with the majority of play in the middle of the field and again the chances came from short corners. Midway through the second a converted short corner by UEA was disallowed. The game was looking like a draw until Union were awarded a short corner in the dying seconds and Bingham smashed home with the last hit of the game.

Division 2 North

13/01/01

Cambridge City II 3**Norwich Union 4**

The home team played the more attractive hockey in this first fixture after the break, but the superior finishing of the visitors clinched the points. City took a 2 goal lead into the interval as Union struggled to get the journey out of their legs. Snelling pulled one back shortly after the break though, and the rattled home side soon conceded another through Wolfe as the pressure was piled on. Cambridge then retook the lead and held it that way until shortly before the end. Wolfe then added his second to level the scores, and from there on it seemed inevitable that Union would take all three points - achieved when Snelling got his second.

Division 3 North East

13/01/01

Norwich Union II 3**Broadland II 0**

Union took their time to get going after the mid season break and failed to score in the first half from a number of good chances. However the score remained 0-0 due to the solid Union defence of Bingham, Wilkinson and Searle. After the break Union came out positively and it wasn't long before they opened their account for 2001 when McQuade won a short corner which was hammered into the goal by Bingham. Almost immediately the lead was doubled when a long ball by Brooks found McQuade who in turn set up Birch to slot comfortably home for his first of the season. McQuade then made it three after following up Sinclair's flick to effectively end the game and finish Union's long spell without a victory.

Division 4 North East

13/01/01

Dereham III 5**Norwich Union III 0**

The first half of this match was a close fought affair, Dereham narrowly shaving it one nil. Ten minutes into the 2nd half and two deflections later Dereham were 3-0 and full of confidence. Dereham went on to score another two well worked goals, Union failed to trouble the Dereham keeper after half time.

Division 2 North

9/12/00

St. Neots 3**Norwich Union 3**

The visitors conceded three early goals with some shockingly naive marking, but after this 15 minute nightmare, managed to turn the game around. First half goals from Snelling, Kemp and Wolfe restored parity, and Union then settled into a fine second half of dominance, but failed to convert. A number of excellent chances went begging, with Snelling in particular unlucky not to add more after hitting both crossbar and post. Brown also had some good chances, but in the end the game finished level.

Division 3 North East

9/12/00

Norwich Union II 2**Norwich City II 3**

The first half of this match went against the form book with high flying City forced to defend an onslaught of Union attacks. Both Brooks and McQuade were denied by excellent saves from the City keeper whilst Older managed to beat the keeper only to see his shot go agonisingly wide, leaving Union wondering why the game was still goalless at half time. In the second half City came out stronger and during one break managed to squeeze the ball past Union's keeper from an acute angle. City then played their best hockey of the game and went two up when a deflected shot left Ellis stranded for the second time in two weeks. City's third followed soon after with a simple tap in after a broken down short corner. Union then showed a spirit lacking in previous weeks and fought back, eventually getting a goal when Garrod slotted home from a yard. Jones then got Union's after another good move before the whistle went on an entertaining derby.

Division 4 North East

9/12/00

Broadland III 0**Norwich Union III 4**

A rampant Allred helped Union brush away the Broadland challenge. Union were 2-0 up by half time thanks to two goals from Allred who along with young Gill & Garner run rings round the Broadland defence. After half time several chances came & went before Wilson & Garner sealed a comfortable win.

Division 2 North

2/12/00

Norwich Union 3**Bedford Town II 3**

Bedford took an early lead, and pushed this further to be two goals ahead at the interval. Union threatened brief periods of resistance, but couldn't put any significant attacks together. The second half started much better for the home team, when Jones bundled the ball home after some sustained pressure. Kemp then levelled the score with an excellent strike, but Bedford took advantage of some slack defending to win a short corner, which was duly converted. However, a ball through to Snelling saw the Union striker upended in the circle - winning a penalty stroke. Taylor converted to level the score and Union held out to take a share of the points.

Division 3 North East

2/12/00

Harleston Magpies III 3**Norwich Union II 1**

Both teams started this game brightly creating a number of chances before Harleston gained the upper hand and opened the scoring with a well taken goal. Harleston's second came from short an innocuous short corner strike which Kay unfortunately deflected over his own keeper. Union then showed some determination and started the second half positively applying a lot of pressure on the Harleston defence. Union's pressure finally paid off, albeit with a bit of fortune, when Robbie Kay opened his account for the club with a well struck short corner which was deflected into the roof of the net. The game then became a battle and towards the end of the game, with Union reduced to 10 men after a moment of madness, Harleston secured the points.

Division 4 North East

2/12/00

Norwich Union III 2**Norwich City III 4**

After taking an early lead through Ribbons, Union relaxed & City took control, City made it 1-1 at half time & extended that to 3-1 by midway through the 2nd half. Union woke up late on pulling back one through Garner & then missing a good chance for an equaliser before City sealed

their win with a 4th with 3 minutes to go.

Division 6 North East

2/12/00

Broadland IV 1

Norwich Union IV 1

A much tougher match than anticipated for the visitors, who were hit from the start by a succession of blistering attacks by Broadland, created and led by a core of players freed from their second team. Caught on the backfoot by the home attack, Union took a long time to get their rhythm going, and were glad to go into the interval at 0-0. A much more positive second period for the visitors, and a number of incisive runs were rewarded when leading scorer Andy Deacon slotted a shot home. Deacon featured again shortly afterwards, when a mis-hit strike at goal struck him in the eye, forcing him to retire to hospital with a broken nose. Broadland gained the initiative after the restart, and after some concerted pressure got a deserved equaliser. Union had their chances to win it at the death, but in the end it was a fair result, and a blow to their title hopes.

Division 2 North

25/11/00

Gorleston 1

Norwich Union 3

Both sides were missing key players, but the strength of Norwich Union's depth shone through as the visitors took an early lead through Snelling. Concerted pressure led to numerous chances throughout the game, and Jones finally put Union two ahead for the interval scoreline. Gorleston then fired a superb strike into the net to pull one back, but this was a small hiccup in the domination of possession. Union could easily have scored half a dozen more goals before Jones restored the two goal advantage.

Division 3 North East

25/11/00

Norwich Union II 2

Lowestoft Town 2

Union were unlucky to goal a goal down after Town scored from a contested penalty stroke. This inspired Union to play some of their best hockey for a number of weeks and they equalised through Parsons. Union took the lead through Brooks and continued to dominate the play. They should have taken the points but, not for the first time this season, they were caught on the break with 2 minutes to go when Town equalised.

Division 4 North East

25/11/00

Waveney 4

Norwich Union III 0

Norwich Unions defence was weakened by injury and absence and with some luck managed to hold out for 20 minutes, but Waveney's attacking options from midfield eventually saw them create two well-worked goals. Possession throughout was even but Waveney still created the better chances and scored two more second half goals. An instinctive save by Waveney's keeper prevented Union scoring a consolation goal.

Division 6 North East

25/11/00

Norwich Union IV 4

Lowestoft Railway III 1

A barnstorming performance from a Union side stripped to the bare bones by the absence of several key players. With a particular deficiency in defence, the home team played an unusual 3-4-3 formation, and the extra space at the back was soon exploited by a Lowestoft side on one of their characteristic quick breaks. Going a goal down seemed to galvanise Union, and after concerted pressure they levelled the scores before the interval through a sweet strike from Andy Deacon, back on the scoring trail. The visitors started the second half more aggressively, but the prospect of going down to 10 men (and two natural defenders) fired the home team up, and in a devastating 15 minute burst put three more past a shell-shocked Lowestoft defence, with goals from Andy Key, Jimmy Matthews and goal-machine Deacon. 10-man Union then mounted a resolute rearguard action, with notable efforts from Key and press-ganged defender Andy Hollis, to claim a hard-won victory.

EHA Trophy Round Two

19/11/00

Norwich Union 0

Epsom 4

A very strong visiting side from the south didn't have the game all their own way in this second round HA Trophy game. They took an early lead as Union showed a degree of inexperience and a willingness to let the visiting team play the way they wanted. A two goal lead at half time was a fair reflection of events. However, after a change in tactics at half time, Union pressed Epsom hard and were unlucky not to convert pressure into goals during a 20-minute spell of dominance. Chasing the game inevitably led to tiring legs, and two late strikes completed Epsom's transition to the next round of the competition.

Division 2 North

18/11/00

Norwich Union 0

Harleston Magpies II 1

A very keenly contested game seemed to be heading for an inevitable draw until Gavin Cole slotted home for the visitors five minutes from time. Until that point it had been an intriguing game, with both teams displaying a good knowledge of each other's game. The pressure game of Harleston was nicely balanced against the counter-attacking style of Union.

Division 3 North East

18/11/00

Bury St. Edmunds II 3

Norwich Union II 1

Union got off to a positive start in the game with a number of good chances during which Moulson hit the post but conceded via a well struck short corner. Union again pressured at the start of the second half and were rewarded with a penalty stroke which McQuade converted. Bury then reacted quickly following a long corner and snatched back the advantage. Bury got their third towards the end of the game and Union didn't look like getting back into it.

Division 4 North East

18/11/00

Norwich Union III 4

Bury St. Edmunds III 2

After an even opening Union gifted Bury an opening goal, spurred on by this Bury doubled their advantage by halftime. Inspired by young Gill Union staged a 2nd half comeback. Allred poked home the 1st & Banham levelled with a cool headed flick after good work by Garner. Union continued to press with Allred making merry down the right. Morris deflected home the third & Allred nailed his 2nd & the teams 4th to cap an excellent team

Division 6 North East

18/11/00

Norwich Union IV 2

Bury St. Edmunds V 2

A tough test for Union after last week's break, as they brought out the best performance from yet another visiting side. The home team started strongly, helped by the late arrival of a number of Bury players, but failed to convert the early chances. The visitors soon took advantage, as the new look Union defence struggled to deal with some impressive counter-attacks, and Bury put away two goals before the break, against the run of play. The game was actually much more even in the second half, and the home side had to withstand sustained pressure, with new boy Craig Elliot particularly impressive. Union did manage to turn things round however, and hard work up front was finally rewarded with the first goals of the season for Ollie Hewkin and Jimmy Matthews. The home team were disappointed not to take all three points, but will have taken heart from their gutsy comeback.

Division 2 North

11/11/00

Norwich Union 6

Royston 3

Union made the visitors pay heavily in the first 15 minutes and quickly took a four goal lead through Thompson, Cox (2) and Jones. Royston finally managed to co-ordinate a counter-attack and got one back just before the interval. Union continued to dominate the second half, but inevitably failed to maintain 100% concentration. Royston added two goals through short corners, but Union maintained their advantage through a second goal from Jones and one from Wolfe.

Division 3 North East

11/11/00

UEA 4

Norwich Union II 1

Union were outplayed by a younger and fitter side in this Division 3 North East game. UEA took the lead early on and got another midway through the first half. Union then had their best period of the game where they got a goal back through good interplay between the veterans Price and Thomas with the later finishing of the move. Union conceded another early in the second half and towards the end of the game were caught on the break for UEA to score their fourth.

Division 4 North East

11/11/00

Dereham II 6

Norwich Union III 0

After an even first 20 mins Dereham were gifted a goal, this served to inspire them to take control of the game. Two further goals before halftime stamped their authority of the game. The 2nd period was dominated by Dereham who scored 3 further goals including two flicks.

Division 2 North

4/11/00

Felixstowe 3

Norwich Union 2

An umpiring administration error probably cost Norwich Union this match as they were forced to use one of their players as umpire in this closely contested game. Union fought from one down to lead 2 -1 until the last ten minutes, when Felixstowe hit back with 2 goals against the tiring visitors. Snelling again proving lethal in front of goal, and claiming both goals.

Division 3 North East

4/11/00

Norwich Union II 0

Broadland 4

A weakened and indisciplined Union side tasted defeat for the first time in thirty one league matches. Broadland took the lead midway through the first half and added another 3 towards the end of the game.

Division 4 North East

4/11/00

Norwich Union III 1

Harleston IV 1

Magpies opened the scoring through Smith in the first few minutes of the games, but for a couple of good saves from Manning Magpies would have extended their lead. Union battled back in the 2nd half & finally got their equaliser with the last action of the game, the cool head of Banham slotting home a penalty flick.

Division 6 North East

4/11/00

Norwich Union IV 0

Harleston VI 0

A cold evening game, but for once no cold start from a Union team looking to put themselves in a strong position before next week's forced rest. The home side camped out in Harleston's 25 for much of the first quarter but could find no way past the visitors' resolute defence. After that, the game became much more open, and both teams made some impressive attacking runs without ever troubling the goalkeepers. Union were disappointed with a point from this top of the table clash, but know they have to shape up in front of goal. Roll on the 18th!

EHA Trophy Round One

22/10/00

Sudbury 2

Norwich Union 3

Union, missing 6 regular first team players, managed to humble their Division 1 opposition with a gutsy display of direct hockey. The defensive unit of Brooks, Kelsall, Quinton and Latoy were dependable, with Taylor doing an unbelievable amount of work in the midfield. Union took the lead through a Snelling short corner, before conceding two goals to Sudbury. Snelling added a second, after good individual work, and along with Browne threatened the home side's prospects of progression in this competition throughout the second half. The final blow was struck by Older, who tucked the ball past the advancing keeper late in the second half.

Division 2 North

21/10/00

Shefford & Sandy 2

Norwich Union 2

Wolfe scored early in the first half to set the visitors up for some of their best hockey of the league campaign so far, a lead that was taken into the

second half. Snelling added a second from an excellent short corner, before Shefford and Sandy quickly struck one back. Union continued to dominate the play, but the quick forwards of the home side continued to be a danger. This finally turned into disappointment for Union as they conceded a short corner as the final whistle blew, and this was converted to force a share of the points.

Division 3 North East

21/10/00

Norwich Union II 2

Lowestoft Railway 2

In a tough game, Union took the lead when Pete Thomas was set free from and slotted past the keeper to score his first Union goal. Railway battled back and equalised later in the half. In the second half Union raised their game and had a number of chances before Thomas got his second from a short corner. Union then should have sealed the points but in the dying minutes they were reduced to 10 men and Lowestoft managed to snatch the equaliser.

Division 4 North East

21/10/00

UEA II 3

Norwich Union III 2

A close fought encounter, Union taking the lead through Allred after good work by Ribbons. UEA hit back with a goal soon after only for Banham to restore Union's lead with a flick on half time. In the 2nd half Union were under a large amount of pressure, just when it seemed the game was won UEA equalised & then proceeded to score from a short corner right on full time.

Division 6 North East

21/10/00

Norwich Union IV 2

Pelicans IV 1

A much stiffer test for a Union side buoyed by last week's turnover of North Walsham. A delayed start seemed to help the visitors, who started the brighter, without ever threatening to score. Mounting home pressure finally told when the ever-reliable Andy Bingham struck home from a short corner. The second half started as the first, with Pelicans denied by a series of fine saves from keeper Robbie Whiting, but a mis-hit shot sent him the wrong way and rolled into the corner of the goal. Union showed determination to re-establish their dominance, and were rewarded for their hard work when new boy Andy Deacon found the goal for the fourth time in two games, thanks to a clever turn of his marker. Another encouraging step on the promotion trail.

Division 2 North

14/10/00

Norwich Union 2

Bourne II 2

Norwich Union were at their best in the first half, with the Keeper being drawn from his line twice and Rupert Snelling scoring both goals. Second half Bourne scored from a splendid short corner with the ball going in off the bar. This was closely followed with a free hit on the 16 yard line which was deflected past Jim Woodruff the Union keeper with no chance of a save. The result gave Union their first point of the season.

Division 3 North East

14/10/00

Holt 0

Norwich Union II 1

Union continued their good start to the season with a hard earned victory over a good Holt side. Union came close to taking the lead in the first half when a short corner strike was disallowed but continued to play positively. Union started the second half brightly and took a deserved lead when Jones slipped the ball to Gill who slotted it past the impressive Holt keeper. Union then had chances to seal the game but missed a number of opportunities. Holt applied the pressure towards the end of the game but Union's defense ensured victory went to the visitors.

Division 4 North East

14/10/00

Norwich Union III 1

Lowestoft Railway II 0

A fine all round team performed secure a second consecutive victory. Union controlled much of the game with managing to win a single short corner. Midway through the 2nd half Ribbons latched on to a loose ball to notch the winner. Despite an excellent display from Allred no further goals were forthcoming.

Division 6 North East

14/10/00

North Walsham II 1

Norwich Union IV 6

Union dominated the early exchanges and scored through a Bingham short corner after 5 mins. Andy Deacon who was playing his first game for NU then scored a hatrick after finding himself in the right place at the right time on three occasions. Walsham did generate numerous chances but could not finish. Danny Molineux scored the 5th goal just before half time after Walsham had opened their account with a well taken short corner. The second half was more evenly contested and Union scored a sixth goal through a spectacular individual goal from Bradley Rose who beat 5 players before slotting the ball away from the most acute angle from the left.

Division 2 North

7/10/00

Spalding 6

Norwich Union 1

Norwich Union produced a poor performance, where Richard Moulson scored their goal and Christopher Cox had an impressive debut.

Division 3 North East

7/10/00

Norwich Union II 2

Pelicans II 2

After gifting Pelicans the lead McQuade equalised from a penalty flick and Older put them 2-1 up. Union spurned further chances and were punished by a late equaliser.

Division 4 North East

7/10/00

Bury IV 0

Norwich Union III 1

The goal came midway through the second half after Wilson weaved his way through the Bury defence.. Excellent work by Medlar helped secure the lead..

Division 2 North

30/9/00

Norwich Union 0

Cambridge City II 1

Both sides pressured early on, failing to finish their chances. Cambridge took the lead midway through the second half with a hotly disputed goal. Despite intense Union resolve the equaliser remained unforthcoming. Penalty corner specialist Snelling came closest, firing narrowly over the bar.

Division 3 North East

30/9/00

Broadland II 1

Norwich Union II 3

A first half dominated by the visitors was illustrated by Parsons' two converted penalty strokes. In the second half Broadland pressure reduced the arrears. A late debut goal by Jamie Older following fine work by skipper Brooks secured the win for newly promoted Norwich Union.

Women's

East Super League Division 1

3/02/01

St. Ives 1

Norwich Union 0

Union won the moral victory in this hard fought encounter at St Ives, but unfortunately came away with no points. Without the services of Lynne Price due to injury, Union started brightly gaining some good early pressure following good work by Sal Benton. St Ives came back into the game, however and scored midway through the first half with a well taken effort, which beat the tough Union defence. Some good runs by Wendy Latoy upfront and usual solid defence by Hazel Medler in particular, ensured Union were always in with a chance of earning a point, however time ran out on the visitors. Union can be proud of their work rate and excellent team spirit.

East Super League Division 1

9/12/00

Norwich Union 1

Broxbourne 0

The final league game of the year saw Union take the points in a game where a draw would probably have been a fair result. Union started the game without Sarah Wagstaff at sweeper, however replacement Rachael Clarke had an impressive game in the heart of the defence. The first half saw Union having most of the play, earning a number of short corners. Union scored from the best move of the match, working the ball across the pitch, culminating in a fine strike from Gail Thomas. Whilst the keeper smothered the ball, it threatened to cross the line, an infringement on the line earned Union a penalty flick which was well converted by Wendy Latoy. Union then soaked up pressure from Broxbourne, and held out to earn a valuable 3 points, to cap an impressive first half of the season.

East Super League Division 1

2/12/00

Chelmsford II 1

Norwich Union 1

Union were under pressure very early on and went a goal down within the first 5 minutes to top of the table Chelmsford. Union had to dig deep and were grateful to their strong defence yet again, with particular mention going to Hazel Medler and Sieve Henderson. Having weathered the storm Union began to press, with good work on the right by Gail Thomas and Ali Gunton. Union equalised from a short corner strike by Lynne Price which the keeper stopped, however Gail Thomas reacted quickly to plant the ball neatly inside the left post. The second half was an even affair with chances at both ends, but a draw was a fair result. Teamwork and determination continue to be the key to Union's success this season.

East Super League Division 1

25/11/00

Norwich Union 2

Welwyn Garden City 1

Union played some good hockey first half, but failed to turn this pressure into goals. Union were aided by the return of Lynne Price and the excellent work rate of Sal Benton and Ted Rogers. Second half saw Union take the lead with a sharp effort converted smartly by Sal Benton. Welwyn then broke quickly and earned a short corner from which they were awarded a flick following an infringement on the line. Union keeper Sieve Henderson was inches away from maintaining the lead. Union continued to dominate however and scored from a well worked free hit, Liz Willmott passing to Lynne Price who struck the ball home from the edge of the circle, to seal a deserved victory.

Friendly

11/11/00

Norwich Union 1

Dereham 0

Both clubs took advantage of the break in league games to partake in a tough friendly fixture at Pinebanks. Union played some of their best hockey of the season for the first 20 minutes, making this pressure count from a short corner routine finished in style by Sal Benton. Dereham had a strong spell at the end of the first half, but fine defence from Rachael, on her first team debut and Sarah Wagstaff, ensured Union kept another clean sheet. Union need to build on this impressive display by taking this confidence to Cambridge on Saturday.

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