

## Norfolk U10 & U12 In2Hockey County Championships

### **U10 Girls**



The U10 girls played brilliantly in the tournament, beating Pelicans and drawing with City and Magpies. This left a 3 way tie between Dragons, City and Magpies for the top 2 spots. With 5 points each and the same goal difference, the Dragons girls were so unlucky to finish 3rd, on goals scored, by just one goal! The team should feel very proud of themselves. They played some awesome hockey and came so close to turning the draws into wins.

Thank you to David Pentin for his excellent coaching and enthusiasm, Suzie Finch for her expert management and to all the parents for supporting the girls.

### **U10 Boys**



Arriving at a cold Pelicans' ground with a somewhat experimental team that had never played together as a unit before, the u10 boys nevertheless had high hopes for the tournament.

#### Match 1: Pelicans 0 Dragons 3

Dragons were out of the blocks quickly, showed no signs of suffering from the cold and gelled quickly as a team. They dominated the game with well structured play up both the left and right wings. William Loveday showed some impressive skills on the left and Tommie Cahir showed his pace on the right, eventually forcing a ball through the keepers pads. More pressure resulted in a short-corner which Ed Lewis calmly smashed into the backboard - 2-0! Dragons hadn't finished and after more dominant play, Joseph Crotty slotted a well worked cross to make it 3-0 to Dragons. A fantastic team performance with Stanley Hodds controlling the defence and Harry Wells keeping a clean sheet in goal. A very impressive start!

#### Match 2 Norwich City 2 Dragons 0

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Dragons came up against a very well drilled City side who scored two well worked chances. Max Stone did well in goal to keep out a number of shots. Despite a mostly defensive display, Dragons did have chances and on another day it could have been much closer.

### **Match 3 Magpies 1 Dragons 0**

The final game was a very tightly fought affair. Both sides were evenly balanced with chances at both ends. William Faircloth was untouchable down the right flank but repeatedly just failed to make connection with William Loveday who would have been one-on-one with the Magpies keeper (at least twice!). Finn Taylor and Ed Lewis battled hard on the left side with Harry Thomas controlling the central defence. Unfortunately, close to the end of the game, a defensive mix up led to Dragons conceding a soft Magpies goal. Despite all out attacking, Dragons just couldn't find an equaliser. A draw would have been a fair result, but it was not to be.

Despite battling hard and demonstrating some great skills and teamwork, the u10 boys were unfortunate to eventually finish 3<sup>rd</sup>.

### **U12 Girls**



U12 girls easily beat Pelicans 7-0 in their first game, but then despite dominating the play against Dereham, could only manage a 0-0 draw. The team then narrowly lost 0-1 to City in the next game. After battling hard against Magpies, whose keeper made a couple of excellent saves, the girls were eventually beaten 0-2 in the final game, meaning they finished 3<sup>rd</sup> overall.

All the girls played really well, and special mention must go to Romilly and Caitlyn who were both very brave - initially playing on but then retiring injured having been struck by lifted shots in the Magpies game. Thanks also go to all the parents for their sideline support.

### **U12 Boys Green Team**



Dragons Green U12's finished a very respectable 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the County Champs, and on

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another day could have won it! The boys comfortably beat Pelicans, dominated Magpies, should have beaten City and just lost out to Dragons Red. Given all the boys are a year younger than many of the other boys in the tournament, they more than competed against them. We should be very proud of our little U12's!

### **U12 Boys Red Team - County Champions 2018!!!**



On the very cold but bright day in King's Lynn, Dragons U12 Red team took part in the Norfolk County Championships and won it!

They maintained a clean sheet across the 4 games - including the might of Dragons Green team and Norwich City. The statistics were: 0 goals conceded, 8 goals scored, 4 games won. Ed Cross and Harvey Nkrumah were the goal scorers, but it was a fantastic team effort across the whole competition. A big well done to a great bunch of boys, they played super hockey throughout!

Thanks also to all the parents, who braved the Russian climate to support the team, and to sideline assistants Lilly Sore and Ben Nkrumah. Regionals, here we come!