

OH FOOTBALL REPORT

Results for Saturday 13th September:

First Team:

Away v Old Salvatorians (League): 4-1 Victory (Harrison 2, Gower, Yates)

The firsts opened with an excellent display against the newly promoted Salvatorians. Right from the whistle it was all Hampton and it wasn't long before Harry converted well from a neat through ball. Harry was to make it two soon when he bravely challenged the Salvatorians 'keeper for a high ball, heading over the hapless custodian and into the empty net. The whack that Harry received on scoring the goal however, looks to have ruled him out for up to four weeks and will severely be our goal threat. Jacko came on as sub and almost scored with his first touch and acquitted himself well throughout his 60 minutes. Gower headed in the third following a Phil Caughter corner and once Yakka had converted an early second half penalty the game was dead. A vibrant and new look 1st XI look forward to the visit of Old Meads on Saturday.

Team: Nick Jupp, Paul Gower, Graham Taylor, Adam Calvert, Phil Caughter, Leon Kew, Ian Yates, Matt Brunwin, Richard Blakey, M Harrison, Chris Heritage, Phil Eckalamo, Tom Jackson

Second Team:

Home v Old Dorkinians (League) 3-0 Victory (Naidoo 2, Duncan Louis)

This was the OH 2s first game in Senior 2 for best part of 10 years. Nerves were jangling a bit pre match but there was loads of excitement also. After a couple of reasonable pre season showings, the message was to attack in a similar vein but be tighter defensively. The first 15 minutes would be key as we looked to prevent the away team settling on the ball. We closed Dorkinians down very quickly and also began to use the ball fairly well after a first scrappy 10 minutes. The first clear cut chance came after about 20 minutes when Duncan turned from a pass from Nabby and unleashed a shot a yard wide of the keepers right hand post. For the rest of the first half the OH were on top, playing some both cracking and patient stuff with Duncan, going close again and Alan Dunn-Baker also being put through on goal. Eventually we broke the deadlock with a good move down the left which culminated in a neat ball over the right back's head from Threlfall and Ben Naidu held off the centre half's challenge before putting it across the keeper and into the far corner.

Skips was delighted at half time, in particular with the neat, short passing game we were playing but also the solid defensive unit marshalled by Rob Dixon. The second half began with a little bit of a stutter as we struggled to maintain our stranglehold on possession. It got quite scrappy. Dorking started to come into the game and have some possession. We nearly let them back in the game when the right winger got to the touchline and knocked the ball across the goal just a few yards out only for the centre forward to miss unmarked with his head. He hit the bar. That let off was all we needed and following some changes we went after Dorkinians. We grasped possession and control of the game. We scored our second with 20 minutes to go, Phelps finding himself on the left hand side after some neat hold up play by Ben Naidu. He then crossed into the box; Duncs rose like a salmon and placed a fine header in the stanchion of the goal. The job was almost done, after a couple of minutes of Dorking pride we controlled the last 15 minutes and scored a fine goal when Mickey rolled the defender from an Alan D-B pass down the left flank. Mickey was away got to the by-line and centred for Ben to put the ball past the hapless custodian and it was job done 3-0.

Top Stuff

Team: Jimmy Comber, Alex Karski (Neil Sainsbury), Rob Dixon, Dan Sims, James Gibson, Dave Holt (Nick Phelps), Nabby, Duncan Louis, Alan D-B, Ben Naidu, Mark Threlfall (Mickey Sexton)

Third Team:

Away v Old Paulines (League) 4-1 Victory (Battey, Wilson, Wood, Lopez)

Preparations for the opening game of the season were disrupted by a series of pull-outs from the initial 14 man squad. Star midfield hero and film-maker Barron was filming the sequel to the topless boxing series that had made him a hero to a generation of teenage boys. 'Sick note' Sash Patel's latest injury suspiciously followed his debauched stag weekend in the Baltics. Poison dwarf Sekhon's excuse was possibly the most valid, as he found himself 'trapped' in a luxury retreat in Egypt following the collapse of budget airline company XL. I am sure he is making every effort to rush back to work.

In spite of this, the remaining squad was strong and given a lift by the late appearance of ageing midfielder dynamo Holty.

We started well in the blazing heat of Fortress Dean Road and took the game to Guildfordians, who had taken the important step of attempting to learn each others names in a passing game seconds before kick off. The first break through came after a good passing move saw Wood race to the right hand corner before turning his man and delivering a left footed cross to the far post where a waiting Battey put a firm header past the keeper to score on his competitive debut.

It is often said that a team is most vulnerable to conceding a goal immediately after scoring one and sure enough Guildfordians took advantage of an overlap down their left flank to pull a low cross low back towards the edge of the box where an unmarked midfielder met the ball with a firm side foot past a helpless and furious Dix.

Soon after, OH were again camped in the Guildford half and when a ball was played to Taylor across the centre of the pitch from the left, Taylor missed/dummied (delete as appropriate) the ball completely and it ran through to the trusty boot of the Ninj who unleashed a powerful shot from 25 yards which perfectly lobbed the flailing keeper before slipping under the bar. Delightful stuff.

In a near repeat of the earlier score and then concede pattern, Guildfordians strode down the pitch and tried their own 25 yards effort which Dix tipped onto the bar. A second attack forced Dix to use the frame of the goal again, diving to his left to finger the ball on to bar and post. Half time followed soon after.

The second half was a lot more relaxed. While Guildford remained robust in the challenge and pressed the ball well, they seemed to have run out of steam and OH eased comfortably in front after about 65mins when Wood pulled off his marker at the back post to head home a superb cross from Jon Hinton. There was still time for one more concerted Guilford attack but Wheeldon, who is faster than he looks, made a vital last ditch challenge on the diminutive Guildfordian speed-merchant as he raced into the area. Lopez (who does not like to be called Tim as it confuses him) put the icing on the cake with 8 mins to go when he spun his defender before hitting a low left footed strike past the Guildford keeper at his near post.

Job done. Good performance. Next up Paulines.

Team: Dix, Wilson, Baulk, Wheeldon, K Patel, Taylor, Gorczynski, Hinton, Battey (Hinton), Lopez, Wood

Fourth Team:

No fixture – season starts on 27th September.

Vets Team

No Fixture