



SURBITON HOCKEY CLUB 'BACK TO HOCKEY'



7's MONTHLY MIXED TOURNAMENT T4 – 25/01/2025



Written by: - Roger Hitch - B2H Manager
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Team **GRIFFINS**

Alex Drury (GK), Matt Chapman, Peter Bucksey, Kit Yunes, Glenn Moore, Lia Pitarokoili (vc), Jez Lamb, Neil Sturrock (Guest from Sirins), Emma Lloyd-Williams (Guest from Dragons), Ondrej Hrubesh (Guest from Dragons), (10)
(Unavailable - Gary Robinson (Capt.), William Rowlandson, Sam Gardiner, Lisa Harrison, Louise Gordon-Steward, Jerry Lane, Murray Knight, Roger Hitch (transferred) (7))

Scorers – Glenn (3), Matt, Jez,

Team **DRAGONS**

Stuart Swindell (GK), Apurva Anand (vc), Hugh Wilkinson, Daman Chugh, Phoebe Wilkins, Richard Wood, Sarah Kelly, Tom Kay, Nick Blogg, Peter Speirs (10)
(Unavailable - Chris Carr, Emma Lloyd-Williams (transferred), Kevin Styles, Charlotte Coltman, Ondrej Hrubesh (transferred), (Sarah Smith - mothering (Capt.) (6))

Scorers – Tom (3), Peter S., Sarah, Richard, Apurva

Team **SIRINS**

Will Shinn (GK), Roger Hitch (Guest from Griffins), Simon Boote, Peter Higginson, Zoe Latchford, Sandy Mackay (vc), Stuart Murray, Jacques Fischer Ivette Isai, Charlie Mortimer (Capt.) (10)
(Unavailable – Rosy Gross, Simmie Stone, Garyth Turner, Michael Duff, Rex Cham, Gemma Wicks, Neil Sturrock (7))

Scorers – Stuart M. (5), Simon B. (2), Roger (2), Charlie (2), Jacques

Team **Epsom**

PREPARATION

Our thanks to **Matt** for encouraging Epsom to take part, despite the fact that they must have been apprehensive, considering the strength our teams have now reached. Our thanks go to Epsom for wanting to come and join us and we look forward to seeing such a nice and devoted group of players in the near future.

Selection was a bit 'here and there' this time with a lot of unavailability's which is why there was some guesting going on. The Griffins seemed worst affected this time but they came through it well enough. This was the first 4 team T this season so we reverted back to the standard schedule format. This time we had no game draws with 4 narrow wins (by no more than 2 goals difference) and 2 large game wins (same as T3) against Epsom.

UMPIRES

We had our regular guy in **Giles Reynolds** to whom we are always very grateful and **Andy Parker** the club's International Master's Umpire, so our thanks go to him as well. Some of our team players stood up to the challenge so thank you to, Roger (2), **Matt, Jez** and **Apurva**. Just remember – Blow very hard and indicate. Stand mainly on the base line to see the approaching play.

CONTROL DESK

Thanks go to **Chris Hallsworth**, who is undergoing injury recovery and is 'off games' at the moment, to travel a long way and man the control desk to keep the T running on schedule. We are very grateful for this service by all to take on the task each month. Roger had made wings for the flood light post mounted results board which included a clock and area for team captain's subs listings sheets.

THE MATCH RESULTS

As we are running the T's, basically as an internal competition, between our 3 teams who take part each time, as it is not possible to include the occasional and varied visiting teams in the season's Tournament results to determine the overall winner. The winning teams name will be engraved on the tournament cup residing in the club lobby. Last year's winners were the Dragons.

Match results: -

Game 1	SIRINS	DRAGONS	3 - 2
Game 2	GRIFFINS	EPSOM	2 - 0
Game 3	DRAGONS	GRIFFINS	0 - 2
Game 4	SIRINS	EPSOM	6 - 0
Game 5	SIRINS	GRIFFINS	3 - 1
Game 6	DRAGONS	EPSOM	0 - 0 (5-0)

Game 6 V Epsom - Dragons were penalised for not fielding a mixed side (according to the requirement in the rules) in the second half resulting in the score being null and void. This does not affect the season's tournament ongoing tallies. The tournament rules will be updated to include reference to how a mixed selection should be arranged, with respect to the numbers of females available to be on pitch at any one time.

T4 Match Points: -

These are from the internal team games only.

SIRINS	6 (#1)
GRIFFINS	3 (#2)
DRAGONS	0 (#3)

T3 Match Points: -

DRAGONS	6 (#1)
SIRINS	2 (#2-GD)
GRIFFINS	2 (#3)

T2 Match Points: -

SIRINS	5 (#1)
GRIFFINS	4 (#2)
DRAGONS	2 (#3)

T1 Match Points: -

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SIRINS	DRAGONS	2 - 0	S - 3 (#1)
GRIFFINS	SIRINS	1 - 3	S - 3 (#2)
DRAGONS	GRIFFINS	2 - 3	G - 3 (#3)

Tournament Points - T1 + T2 + T3 + T4: -

SIRINS	19
GRIFFINS	12
DRAGONS	8



The results are carried forward for the end of the season's final totals.

VISITORS AND PLAYING GUESTS

Rosy came down to watch the first few games and it was lovely to see members showing an interest in our activities, even when they are not taking part. Tracy House, ex B2H co-Manager, also passed by to watch some of our games. Our thanks go to those players who agreed, by default, to guest in opposition teams to ensure that the team ratings were as compatible as selection could make it due to unavailability. Thanks to guest **Will** for turning out again to make even teams.

PLAYERS NEW TO THE T'S

We had a number of players who were experiencing the fun and excitement that we all enjoy during these matches and we hope that they enjoyed the challenges that our regular players experience each T. These players were: - **Neil, Peter H., Jacques.**

TEAM SELECTION CRITERIA

Players have now been allocated to one of our three regular internal teams. Newly interested players will be allocated accordingly as they ask to be included. Selection by the team captains will be limited to ten players, in rotation, for each T, so not everyone will play each T of the season. All team squads remain with 16 players allocated and selection starts with availability. We hope that you will come down and support your team if you are not selected as **Rosy** and **Chris H.** did this time.

We have 48 members who have asked to play in the T's and we had 63% available this time (50% for T2, 63% for T3). We are still getting about one new B2H member per week, so the overall interest in the T's and squad numbers may rise.

STATISTICS

Statistics play a relevant part in selection criteria and ratings (max 10 pp) are currently as follows: -

- Overall squad (16 players) ratings
 - Sirins 95
 - Dragons 92
 - Griffins 91
- Average squad (16 players) ratings (does not really tell us anything)
 - Sirins 5.94
 - Dragons 5.75
 - Griffins 5.68
- T4 team (10 players) ratings
 - Sirins 65
 - Dragons 63
 - Griffins 61

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As players develop, their ratings change (usually upwards) so although it might seem that some squads are moving ahead of others, players were initially placed in a squad with their first identified rating to ensure equality with other squads at the beginning of their entry to B2H. I do not keep a historical record of rating changes. The squad ratings are so close as to not really make any difference to a match. What does make the difference is availability and fitness over which I have no control.

THE PLAY – FACT OR FICTION

This is always the difficult bit to write in trying to remember the events that took place to make interesting reading. Of course, there was one outstanding event that must have captured the views of all who were watching during the last Sirins game but enough said about that!

The standard of play that B2H is now experiencing is one that we have not seen before as we have been bolstered by a number of very good players both from abroad (thanks South Africa) and from our own homeland by members who, after many years of rest, have decided to take up the stick again. We all know who they are and we are grateful for the opportunity of providing activities that challenge all those who take part. However, as can be seen from the T4 results against Epsom, we are slowly isolating ourselves from local club's B2H groups as we may soon find no one who wants to play us at the supposed B2H level. We need to encourage our top level players to consider playing for our league sides and this we are in the process of doing. Whether they choose to or not we all remain as part of the B2H family.

We were fortunate to have the weather man on our side who must have convinced the higher authority to provide us with a glorious day with not a cloud in the sky and the sun shone throughout on a glorious tournament. Our teams played very well with the playing form echoing the training we have been given.

SIRINS - My mind goes to back to the performance of **Stuart M.** who gave a literally dynamic performance ending up with the virtual Purple Armband indicating being the highest scorer with 5 goals. This was the best I have seen him play since joining our merry band of members and for me I would give him "Player of the tournament". **Jacques** is a great asset to any team with his determination, quick passing and intelligent positioning and contributed a great deal to the Sirins performance. **Yous truly** did some appalling early attempts at goal scoring (simply shocking and not doing what he says!) but you could say 'came good in the end' with a nice over and in and short push goals (after nearly having been taken out - again). **Charlie**, always keen for a win, played his normal quality game showing great stamina by netting his 2 goals. **Ivett** on the left with her twirls, manages now to retain possession of the ball and create telling passes to further enhance the team's performance. **Peter H.** in defence, in such a short time as an NTH player, has taken to the game well and can hold his own in a tackle and has good vision and a strong pass.

DRAGONS - **Tom** was everywhere as usual using his speed and ball control to pop in three more for the Dragons, despite them failing to win a game this time, having been #1 in T3. **Stuart S.** in goal showed an increasing fitness level than when first introduced to us and was able to regularly dive out to ground to push the ball away from the feet of the defenders. I think he even managed to do some amazing stick interceptions and sweep aways, and as now the only member who has a 100% Monday training attendance, by the unfortunate situations of others who were alongside his attendance record until recently, indicates that training works. Great to see **Sarah K.** slot one home again and from a great position of support showing how it is done – position off the ball being so important. **Phoebe** showed a sound performance and I was pleased to see short intelligent passes being made - well done.

GRIFFINS - Thanks to **Alex** for taking part and enabling all of our teams to field a GK. Of course, we expect **Glenn** to slot a couple and he did not disappoint with organising a threesome this week. **Matt**, the sturdy defence barrier continued to wow us with his turns 'this way and that' shaking off the buzzing bees that always seemed to home in on him. Afterall, he is very sweet! **Ondrej** is very dashing, finding him all over the place in the hunt for glory which he eventually found with a goal to his credit - another one in the bank. **Kit** tried and tried his best but was not lucky this time, having to watch Glenn, Matt and Jez take all the glory with their goals. One thing about **Kit** is, he never gives up and that is an example to us all. Now **Emma**, it is not Ice Hockey, but nevertheless a sound performance with only "One man down" and some good defensive work. **Neil's** first introduction to the T's seemed a bit daunting but he managed to survive with some reasonable contributions for a first old timer (a bit like me!). I am sure that the Griffins look forward to having Captain **Gary** back next time and we all missed his wit and energy that he shows when on-pitch.

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I look forward to the time when we have a script writer in the group who can try their hand at match report writing so if you would like to have a go – please do and let me know so I can let my two fingers (one on each hand) cool down.

Well, it has taken me 5 hours to compile this report and as a retired gentleman (and that is open to question of course) it has kept me from continuing to watch the James Bond Series again where I am at #12 of 25.

Until next T – play well, try hard and above all enjoy your hockey. Tat tar for now.

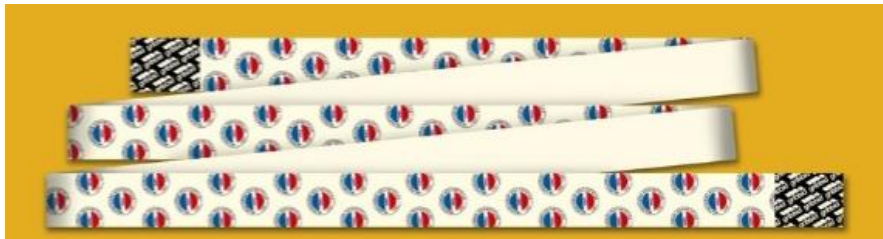
CLASSIC CAP MERCHANDISING

Just to remind you all that the Classic Cap is always available (£11.56) and I would love to see many of you wearing them to show the rest of the club how big B2H's presence is, and also your friends and neighbours when you are out and about. I am sure a cap will provide much heat retention in the cold winter months to come. Just DSM Roger with your request for one, and thanks to those who have already made a purchase. Over half of them have now been allocated.



STICK GRIPS MERCHANDISING

We are soon to make available, custom printed stick grips with multiple B2H logos on. Like this but with the B2H logo instead: -



Cost - £7.80 with £1 going towards the clubhouse development fund (as per the Classic Cap). Available from Roger on request.

B2H PICTURE ARCHIVE

There are no pictures for this T4 but KiTV has assured me that there will be in the future.

Do not forget that all other match pictures and reports are all on the archive photo site here: -

https://hitches.org.uk/photo/#/shared_space/folder/827

Thank you to everyone who took part in this our fourth T of the season.