

# Oxted Hockey Club 2019/2020

## Vintage Match Reports

Saturday 28th September 2019

### ***Moonshiners vs Windsor 2-2***

Nice facilities at Eton College, shame that a number of their former pupils go on to royally screw the rest of the population from positions held high up within the government. Dave “ I support Aston Villa, no wait, West Ham” Cameron started the current angst in the country. I mean, who with a modicum of sense would support either of those teams? Never really recovering from sticking xxxxxx into a pig’s head as a member of the notorious Bullenden Club, he was then the idiot responsible for agreeing to the EU Referendum. It took a lot of effort and bad decision making from Theresa May to become a worse Prime Minister than call me Dave, but surprisingly for a non-Old Etonian she managed it. But boy oh boy, the current incumbent of the office surely takes the prize for being the worst PM of all time, and with a bit of luck he will also soon hold the record for being the shortest serving. Boris, aka the Incredible Sulk or the Clown Prince, is a born liar (e.g. “there are no press here”), serves nobody’s interests but his own, is a dangerously arrogant buffoon, was thought by the Civil Service to be the most inept Foreign Secretary in living memory, and is yet to give a straight answer to any question put to him as PM, just pifflepafflewiffle. Only the old fartnnn membership of the Tory party voted for him to become leader (the words Tory and party really don’t go together well) as they remembered that he was vaguely funny when he appeared on Have I Got News For You. The man is a complete embarrassment and a complete xxxx. A model of restraint with his language, my xxxx. The Leader of The House of Commons, Jacob Rees Old Etonian Mogg is another ptyliar, notoriously he lies all over the seats in parliament, and really is not a very nice, if erudite, person.

Wearing a crucifix and carrying several cloves of garlic about my person eased my anxiety at appearing at such an elite establishment, and although only 8 men and true from Oxted made the journey, Windsor were good enough to lend us 3 players in each half, and to supply both of the umpires, thank you guys. The game started in similar vein to last week as we nearly scored in the first few seconds again, and then won a series of short corners, without making the vital breakthrough. The majority of the rest of the half was dominated by Windsor, although John Holmes was doing a sterling job in limiting the effectiveness of the their dangerous cack-handed centre forward, and thus preventing many clear cut chances from being created. A breakaway just before half time saw Oxted win another short, this time the ball was bobbled

home by Malcolm Field following a goalmouth scramble, one of the rare occasions Malcolm’s stick got to the ball before his feet during the course of the match.

The second half saw Windsor continue to dominate territorially and scored a penalty stroke following a foot on the line. Again though Oxted had a...

...and this time a rebound from the goalkeeper’s pads saw guest Nick bury the

ball high into the Windsor net. The best own goal I’ve ever scored he was heard to remark later. Another short corner to Oxted saw Neil Conquest’s shot stopped on the line with a foot. A penalty then, and a chance to virtually guarantee that the game would be won. The more observant of you will however have read the final score in the heading, and will know this was not to be the case. Andy Duncan resembled nothing less than a recent Manchester United penalty taker when stepping up to the spot, and sure enough the keeper went the right way but didn’t actually need to make the save as the ball clipped the outside of the post and went wide.

This miss proved to be costly, as Windsor scored a late equaliser from open play, but overall a draw was probably a fair result.

*Team : Todd (c), Kenny (GK), Holmes, Conquest, Greenwood, Steer, Field, Duncan + (with thanks) help from Mark, Sash, Chris, Nick, Matt and Stuart.*



# Oxted Hockey Club 2019/2020

## Vintage Match Reports

**Saturday 21st September 2019**

**Oxted Moonshiners 2 Haslemere Vets 4**

And it started so well...

OK, a baking hot day, no access to the men's changing rooms, some delightful little urchin from the school had used a cigarette lighter to burn big holes in the goal nets, and, as it later turned out, no teas for our opposition at the Legion, what else could go wrong? Of course, Epsom might fail to get a team out against the younger Haslemere side, which would mean that the older team we were due to face could be suitably reinforced. We might miss a series of opportunities in front of goal, and fail to take advantage of all but one of a number of penalty corners we won. Mike McGhee could twist a knee in the first few minutes, Greeners might tweak something, but remove his hand from the front of his shorts for just long enough to flick in a short corner rebound, and skipper Todd could forget to use both hands on the stick and then concede a couple of costly short corners from a kneeling position whilst facing towards Mecca, and I might start the season with a cold, dammit.

And it had indeed started so well...

OK, we needed help as we couldn't find or cajole a keeper to play for us from within or without the Club, and we are therefore grateful for being made aware of a WhatsApp group called something like Goalkeepers Are Go, or All Goalkeepers Are Mad In The Head. Anyway, this enabled us to procure the services of Nick Gain, who made a few important saves for us, so thank you Nick. His brother John plays for Southampton Cockburns, and as Tottenham fans go John is both a reasonable hockey player and a decent bloke. I will admit however that our own Spurs season ticket holder Jonathan Trim had a good game on Saturday, albeit whilst Spurs were losing again ☐. Our standout player on the day though was Andy Steer who put in a tremendous shift.

It really had started very well...

Straight from the first whistle, Malcolm Field applied the high press to the last line of the Haslemere defence, stole the ball and planted the ball past the keeper into the back of the net. 1-0 up after 15 seconds and Malcolm wanted to know if he could immediately retire. I hope he meant with the rest of the team to the bar rather than anything more permanent, however in the biggest combined mistake of the afternoon, volunteer umpires Dan Quinton and Dave Riley failed to pay any heed to this plea and continued the game for another 69 minutes and 45 seconds. Whilst we are of course grateful to them both for officiating, I think we would have won comfortably if they had blown the whistle for full time after Malcolm had scored. As it was, first game of the season, lack of fitness, and the temperature hotter than, well, a lot of other places, and gradually we were worn down. Overall, we didn't play that badly though, and could easily have got a more favourable result if we had taken some of the chances created.

Onwards and upwards, next Saturday we play Windsor at Eton College, where I shall be keeping a keen eye out for any sign that austerity has impacted on the establishment or its students. Perhaps the tuck shop has been replaced by a food bank.

Team: Todd (C), Gain (GK), Trim, Holmes, Conquest, Greenwood, Steer, Sanders, Douty, Field, McGhee  
Umpires: Quinton, Riley