

Mixed A Match Reports

Saturday 29th November

Bedouin Hobos 0 Loughborough Sharks Mixed A 1

Loughborough Sharks arrived in Mountsorrell determined to put their recent dip in form behind them. However, the momentum of the early stages went with Hobos and Sharks were kept in the game by goalkeeper Vishal Dhutia, who made some good blocks. Sharks gradually managed to gain some headway down the right through Niki Patel, but the closest either team came to a goal was when a Hobos shot clipped the top of the bar towards the end of the half and Sharks managed to reach half time with no damage on the scoresheet.

The response from the Sharks side was excellent as they controlled the majority of the play at the start of the second half, and managed to edge ahead with a well worked short corner finished by Anish Patel. Some excellent defensive work by Toby Pendlebury, Fran Hicks, Imogen Clements and Hannah Marriott kept the Hobos down to only a handful of shots. Lizzie Halliwell very nearly doubled the scoreline in the final minutes but the game ended with only the one goal between the teams. A very well fought victory for the Sharks.

Saturday 21st November

This week's match found Loughborough Sharks facing Loughborough Carillon B. The second local derby after playing the A team two weeks ago in a cup match.

Sharks tried hard to keep to their game plan but inexperience of the young side showed in the final score. Sharks had a few close encounters with the goal throughout the game but were unable to create a more even score line. Spirits were raised in the second half when Anish Patel put away a well worked goal to pull one back. With renewed vigour Sharks put in a good performance but a breakaway goal from the opposition dampened morale once more. A strong defence from Sharks, Toby Pendlebury, Imogen Clements and Hannah Marriott, kept Carillon goals to a minimum causing the opposition to change their attacking formation. Sharks look forward to renewing winning ways with their next match.

Saturday 14th November

On Saturday 14th November, Loughborough Sharks played Rottweilers away. The match began at 10am and Sharks got off to a good start with Anish Patel scoring in the roof after a good build up in the midfield. This was followed by several quick and powerful attacks by Rottweilers which led to two short corners, both of which they scored. After a brief stalemate, several promising attacks from both teams and a Sharks defender being injured and taken to A & E to get sewn back together, Rottweilers went on to score twice more. At the end of the first half the score was 4 – 1 to Groby. After a reshuffle of positions to suit our 10 player team Sharks restarted promisingly with a much better performance than the first half. Two goals by Matt Hargrave and Anish Patel were met by two goals from the Rotweillers making the score 6 - 3. After a very even second half with some great defending by Charlie Morgan against persistent goal attempts and some strong charges up the wing by Niki Patel Sharks were unable to score again. The game ended 6 – 3 to Rotweillers.

Saturday 7th Nov

Loughborough Sharks 'A' mixed v Loughborough Carillon 'A' played their cup game on Saturday 7th November at Harry Carlton Sports ground. The match was played in sunny but windy conditions on a good pitch.

The match started swiftly in Carillon's possession as they scored 2 goals in quick succession all from open play.

Sharks, struggling to get a team structure due to a different line up, worked well to regain possession but unfortunately succumbed to a third goal.

Sharks retaliated by a great line up of Alex Selwood out wide to Ellie Reynolds, who then passed into the D to Lizzie Halliwell who scored their first goal.

However, at half time the score line stood at 5-1 to Carillion who continued to dominate midfield and attack.

Second half Sharks were determined to recover the game but gave away the ball too cheaply. Ideally some changes to the team may have helped, but unfortunately there were no substitutes to allow the team to be restructured.

The fast moving game kept sharks on the defensive and Carillion went on to score two more goals.

Sharks came back on the attack with excellent play from Anish Patel and Vivek Lodhia but were no match for the strength of the opposition who went on to win 9-1.

The game finished on an attacking short corner for sharks with the whole team participating, however, they were unfortunate to end the game with an unchanged score line.

Sat 31st Oct

A well played first half from Sharks seemed promising, good attacking play and some excellent passing meant they had most of the possession and posed a threat on Phoenix's goal. Although there were many excellent moves there were very few shots on goal. Deep into the first half a quick movement down the right and a good cross accumulated in a goal by Chris Braithwaite for Sharks. Leading into the second half Sharks were feeling confident but disaster struck when a lapse in concentration allowed Phoenix to break through and score. Not long after, came their second, from an unfortunate penalty. The flick put phoenix into the lead. Having lost the advantage and playing on tired legs, because of the lack of substitutes, Sharks fought back bravely creating chances but they were unable to finish them. This resulted in the final score being 2-1 to Phoenix which was disappointing for Sharks after their performance in the first half.

Sat 24th Oct

The match started off very evenly with both teams putting in great runs but being equally denied by the defence. Tom Foulds and Hugh Condon made some good attacks putting pressure on the opposition however they failed to convert their chances. Despite valiant efforts from Danny Spencer and Emi Bakewell both teams were still tied at half time. After an effective team talk the Sharks team kept Westlea in their half for most of the time and any break away attacks were denied by a strong Sharks defence consisting of Jess Riley, Hannah Marroitt, Imogen Clements and Toby Pendlebury. Tom Foulds masterminded a strong attack half way through the second half which resulted in a well deserved goal by Will Marroit. Westlea stepped up and eager to score broke away several times but couldn't make it count. Vishal Dhutia, in goal, stopped all shots coming towards him allowing Sharks to win 1-0.

Sat 17th Oct

On Saturday the 17th of October Sharks 'A's' took on Syston. The game started off at a fast pace, with great runs from Emi Bakewell and Tom Foulds. Early in the first half Sharks took the lead due to a reverse stick strike from Charlie Morgan which went into the roof of the goal. The game continued to be played at a fast pace but Sharks conceded two goals. Charlie Morgan then scored another great reverse stick goal to level the score at half time. The second half began with Sharks dominating the game creating many chances but were then caught on the counter attack to go behind. Sharks came back fighting and were constantly dominating but couldn't find the goal. In the last five minutes Sharks pressed harder and were awarded a penalty flick. Tom Foulds stepped up to the mark and placed the ball nicely in the

corner to level the game at 3-3. Overall Sharks put out a very good performance and deserved the win, but settled for the 1 point.

Sat 10th Oct

The mixed A team entertained Carillion Falcons at home and with coach Ross Matthews on hand to ensure no slip ups they ran out comfortable winners.

Sat 19th September

The Sharks mixed As played their first game of the season against Forest Wanderers. After a shaky first half in which they conceded three goals they gelled well as a team to fight back during the latter part of the game. Goals scored by Nikki Patel and Ellie Reynolds brought the score to 3-2 with 15 minutes to go. Unluckily, a penalty conceded late into the second half made the final score a 4-2 loss for the Sharks.