

Match Report Sunday 20th November 2011

Mini Hockey Championships - U12 Boys

For the first time, Thirsk entered two teams in this competition, and

Thirsk 'A' 2 – 0 Thirsk 'B'

Thirsk 'A' v Thirsk 'B' was the opening game. It was a great sight to see all these talented players representing the club. It was a tense start from both teams, and the 'A's were the first to get a chance at goal, but Will Mitchell in the 'B' goal saved from Harry Collinson, this was the first of several good saves made by Will. He thwarted chances from Toby Hussell and Arthur Hunt, and this gave the 'B' team confidence to attack themselves. Ben McIntosh was able to pass from midfield finding Sam Winstanley on the right, and his cross was met at the far post by Jonathan Craske, but he was unable to beat Luke Brownlee in the 'A' goal. Both teams were battling hard, Oliver Houseman broke free on the right, but his shot could only hit the post. Josh Dale for the 'B' team helped to clear the pressure and Connor Watson fed Jonathan, but again he could not score past Luke. The 'A' team finally broke the deadlock as Harry found Toby, and he cleverly pushed it into the goal. In his first appearance of the season, Toby was able to grab his second goal, and seal a 2-0 win for the 'A' team.

Thirsk 'A' 0 – 0 Harrogate

The 'A' team's next opponents were Harrogate, and Thirsk were first into their stride, Arthur feeding Sam Bosomworth down the left, his pass was met by Harry, but his shot was saved. Harrogate who were a strong team, did pass well, and James Houseman and Alex Docherty struggled a little to prevent the Harrogate shots coming in, but Luke was able to save well. Thirsk were under pressure for much of the game, but when they did attack, they did threaten, and Oliver's effort was well saved at the near post. Luke was forced into another fine save, and although the game could have gone either way, a 0-0 was a fair result.

Thirsk 'B' 2 – 2 York

Meanwhile on the other pitch the 'B' team had a great game with York. Thirsk took the lead when Jonathan was put through by William Wilson. But in no time York had equalized. Thirsk however continued to press, earning themselves a penalty corner. Ben was able to smash his strike into the corner and Thirsk lead 2-1. But York were determined, and tried hard to fight back. James Foster in defence, and Will in goal did well, but unfortunately, a mix up when the ball appeared to strike a York foot lead to Thirsk conceding a soft goal, and Thirsk had to settle for 2-2 draw.

Thirsk 'A' 0 – 0 York

The final game and all to play for. The 'A' team played York, and really started to get into their stride, both James and Arthur releasing Oliver in space down the right, and on three occasions the York goalkeeper was able to make the save. Thirsk also had chances with Toby unable to squeeze it past the keeper, both Sam and Harry firing just wide. The Thirsk defence mainly kept York out of the attacking circle, but on one occasion York created a one on one with Luke in goal, but he was able to save well. It finished 0-0, but the Thirsk players will know it was a game they should have won, with all the great attacking plays they created.

Thirsk 'B' 0 – 1 Harrogate

The 'B' team against Harrogate, and they conceded early, but fought hard throughout, and although they were not able to score, did defend with great determination, and Will again made several fine saves. A 1-0 loss to Harrogate, a great result.

Thirsk 'A's finished runners up, and will qualify for the Yorkshire finals in February. Well done to all the players who can be very proud of their performances, in particular Will Mitchell and Luke Brownlee who were team players of the day. A very large thank you to Sam Gardiner for managing the 'B' team, and Neil Collinson and Johnny Scaling for umpiring.

Many thanks also to all the parents who supported on a cold, and grey "Movember" day.



Thirsk 'A' Team

Back Row: L – R Arthur Hunt, Alex Docherty, James Houseman, Harry Collinson, James Houseman
Front Row: L – R Sam Bosomworth, Luke Brownlee (Player of the Day), Toby Hussell



Thirsk 'B' Team

Back Row: L – R William Wilson, James Foster, Sam Winstanley, Jonathan Craske, Ben McIntosh
Front Row: L – R Josh Dale, Will Mitchell, Connor Watson