

Canoe Polo Report

The Southwest regional polo season for 2005/2006 got underway in November with Taunton canoe club entering 2 teams. We have Taunton Tigers the senior team who are in Division 2 and Taunton Babies (Nice choice John) in Division 3, Taunton Babies is a youth team and hope to see them improve over the next couple of seasons.

Taunton Tigers started their season on the 13th November playing at Millfield School. The team consists of Glyn, Martin Biggs, Martin Elston, Mr Sedgbeer & Pup. They had a special appearance from the Silver Fox at one of the tournaments making his comeback in to canoe polo.

After the 1st 2 tournaments Taunton Tigers were looking good being place with in the top 3 positions. But unfortunately due to most of the original team being ill or away, they were unable to enter a competitive team at the last tournament. They did have extra help from the one and only Silver Fox, Steve, Tom & Sam.

You can see the final results below:

		P	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS
1	Bude	14	13	0	1	53	16	37	40
2	Avon Sunday Nighters	14	10	0	4	32	16	16	34
3	Soton A	14	9	0	5	23	17	6	32
4	Sutton Bingham A	14	8	0	6	39	33	6	30
5	Hayle Canoe Club	14	6	2	6	23	20	3	28
6	Tigers	14	5	2	7	23	25	-2	26
7	Queens	14	2	0	12	13	39	-26	18
8	Soton B	14	1	2	11	12	52	-40	18
Total		112	54	6	52	218	218	0	226

Taunton Babies started their polo season on the 26th November at Kingswood pool in Bristol.

For most of them this is their first ever season playing polo in a competition and with not many Thursdays nights sessions under their belt it does show. The main thing they need to be coached on is DEFENSE!! It was basically unheard off, and this was just left down to the loan goal keeper Tom who was managing to save a few great shoots.



After a couple of games without anyone shouting at them I thought I had better get behind the goal line and shout at them (coaching). In a nice way of course not sure if they will agree on that? Well I tried to start with defense so once they had lost the ball I tried to get 2 players back so they could help Tom out. Have to say they did get back but soon went again chasing the ball often ending up with 2 players on 1 person and leaving a nice open space for the attacking team to shoot.

By the last 2 games they had started to play better as a team and getting back once they have lost the ball. Result they do LISTEN sometime. After they have worked on defense they will need to lean to actually tackle the players and not let them glide past with the ball. On the whole it's a good learning session for them.

Did get one compliment from a referee "thought that they played a very clean game and with more experience will be good players" (From the Attacks Badgers)

They are now over half way through their season and although they haven't yet drawn or won a game yet they have been playing loads better as a team. Hopefully with a good summer a head and if all goes well a new grant for polo equipment this will bring on the youths ability for canoe polo.

Division 3 results so far:

		P	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS
1	Pembroke	14	13	0	1	61	5	56	40
2	Blackwater Valley	14	12	0	2	44	11	33	38
3	Bridgend	14	11	0	3	32	10	22	36
4	Gloicetershire Uni	14	7	0	7	24	30	-6	28
5	Bristol Uni	14	5	0	9	20	34	-14	24
6	Hamble Sea Scouts	9	5	0	4	17	19	-2	19
7	Attacking Badgers	9	3	1	5	6	18	-12	16
8	Taunton Babies	14	0	0	14	3	62	-59	14
9	Bath Uni	8	2	1	5	9	14	-5	13
10	UWE B	8	1	0	7	6	19	-13	10
	Total	118	59	2	57	222	222	0	238

Rule of the Month!

No I in TEAM!