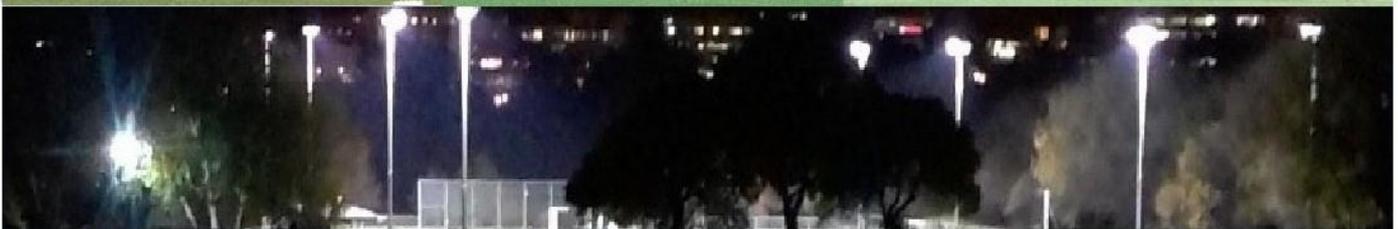




HOCKEY



May 25, 2018



Photo: Stuart Barnard

It was really good to host Pinelands this past weekend and they brought with them a real mixture of talent. Working on the basis of putting their best players into the First Team (regardless of age), they end up with a very competitive First side but, sadly, some really weaker ones in the lower divisions. Two of our sides won by 10 goals to nil!

This weekend we host DF Malan (as well as a couple of other schools) and we look forward to more scintillating hockey. With the hot food and hot drinks from Ardi's, it is always a fun and festive way to spend an evening.

We urge you, as parents, to encourage your sons to watch the First Team matches at 7pm. As hockey players, there is no better way of learning than by watching the school's top side in action. It's also simply what we do – we support each other!

Below are the match reports from the coaches:

First XI:

The SACS players brought an excellent level of energy to the game on Friday and dominated in every aspect of it. Their focus was to enjoy the game by executing their personal actions well. Despite such dominance they were unable to score in the first two quarters of the game, but were rarely threatened as a defence.



SACS scored through a well-taken goal from Kyle Baxter after the half-time chat. He rounded the GK, following a good turnover counter attack, and slammed the ball into the back of the empty goal. Both Gregg Clark and I felt that this would be the moment the floodgates would open.



However, a disjointed bit of defending afforded Pinelands a penalty-corner, which they scrambled in. Despite continued SACS pressure, and a total of 12 unconverted penalty corners, the score remained 1 - 1 at the final whistle.

It was a shattered team brief at the end of the game, not only through effort spent, but also in the knowledge that the game should have been a lot more in SACS' favour, had we been more clinical in scoring.

Second XI:

It was a very frustrating match because we created most of the opportunities, but did not capitalise enough on the amount of possession that we had for the duration of the match.

Although we had a goal disallowed in the second half, we did however have enough opportunities to score. Our execution of penalty corners was very weak on the day and we did not always get the ball in the correct areas to score.

In the final quarter of the field, we became too impatient and played the ball directly into the circle, therefore making it easier for Pinelands to defend. We should have moved the ball wider and deeper into the circle and then created more deflection opportunities, than having direct shots at goal.

On the day, it was a disappointing result.

Third XI:

De Kuilen 1sts proved to be a very tough opponent. There is always a factor of intimidation when facing an opponent classed as a '1st' team. The thirds had proven to themselves that this could be a farce, as against Milnerton.

However, De Kuilen were faster, well-structured and determined not to be overrun. The great use of the "trough" against Milnerton was not used in this match and the Thirds slipped into bad old habits of

running straight into the opponent, passing to the opponent and non-existent man-marking.

Counter-attacks fizzled out due to these costly errors. De Kuilen made sure to exploit these weaknesses and their roving midfielders and forwards confused our players who couldn't communicate about which men to mark. De Kuilen put a fair few goals past us in the first half as the midfielders allowed play straight through the centre of the pitch.

The Thirds certainly worked hard, but hard work done inefficiently drains energy. The second half was a good combination of more thoughtful play and structure. The defence got through the bickering and were determined to help the midfield in possession.

The forwards missed a few opportunities and De Kuilen were on the back-foot during some stages. **Robert Verseld** knocked in a short corner to bring a goal back, but at 1- 5 De Kuilen had a convincing win. The Thirds seem to 'switch on' from time to time, but consistency is lacking.

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Fourth XI: Brackenfell

The Fourth team had to travel to Brackenfell on Saturday to face up to their 1st XI.

What an absorbing game of hockey!

SACS had a number of realistic opportunities in the first ten minutes but managed to be 0 – 3 down because of turning the ball over in the opposition half and the links not working back to help. Also, some poor marking and cover defence did not help at all.

We managed to pull a goal back before half time with a well-taken chance by **Thomas Neff**.

After half time we tightened up in defence and managed two more goals by **Greig vd Heever** from a short corner and by **Ben Rootman** from a right side circle entry. This made the score 3 – 3 and game on!

A few minutes later **Thomas Neff** again scored after some good inter-passing play down the middle.

Sadly, with seven minutes remaining, we reverted to some weak tackling and marking to allow the opposition a circle entry and they managed to “meg” our keeper from a tight angle.

The Fourths never sat back and, with four minutes remaining **Thomas Neff** made it 5 – 4 with a wonderful display of skill down the left baseline, eliminating two players with deft stick-work and finished with a low flick into the far corner. A truly amazing goal and a well-deserved hat-trick for **Thomas Neff**.

One heck of a game of hockey to watch. Well done the Fourths!

U16A:

Coming off a hard-earned 1-0 win against Fairmont, the SACS U16A team came up against a Pinelands team where SACS had to be

careful not to drop their levels. The warm weather was more welcome, as opposed to last week's win during torrential rain.



A SACS team, that is growing in character and stature game-by-game, came out firing, so much so that if one were to blink as the start of the game commenced, one would've missed the opening goal.

The team took this quick goal in their stride and

continued to dominate, continuously reminding themselves of the team's philosophy of 'take everything; give nothing'.

Credit must be given to the Pinelands GK as he had an absolute "stormer" in the goals, keeping the score line at a reasonable level.

A huge focus this year has been the immense battalion that is the u16A short-corner team, and



they certainly didn't disappoint as numerous clinical short-corner routines were put away, especially from the flickers.

Heading into the break at 7- 0 up, the game was all but done, allowing the team to shift the focus on making sure they continued the game-plan set out and not let the game become individualistic and scrappy.

With only three more goals being scored, and a much more even second half, the boys had taken their foot off the pedal, but only slightly.



A big aspect to focus on for the next game is the mind-set to continue and maintain a standard of high-quality hockey, and to do so for the full fifty minutes during the game this weekend against DF Malan.

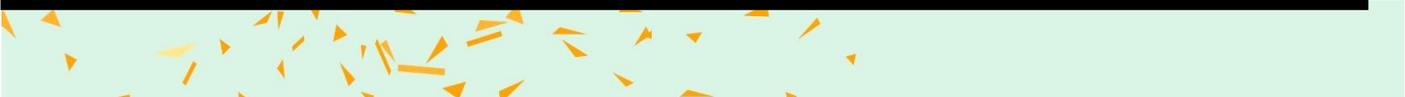
A final score of 10 - 0 resulted, ensuring that this particular box had been ticked and another clean sheet added to the list.

U16B:

Last week the SACS U16B team faced Langa, at the Langa astro. The game was fiercely contested. Langa had very skilful players that proved very difficult for SACS to deal with. This saw them take a 2-goal lead going into half time.

SACS pressed the Langa defenders high up on the turf, which saw them turn over the ball on several occasions. Unfortunately, poor finishing meant the U16Bs couldn't pull a goal back.

James MacDonald was eventually able to link up well with **Keenan Dalwai** to see the lead cut to one goal. The high press eventually led to the U16Bs downfall as fatigue saw Langa put the game to bed with two very late goals, as SACS pushed for the equaliser. The game ended with the U16Bs losing their first match of the season.



U16C:

The under 16C played De Kuilen U16 A team over the weekend and, once again, none of the SACS boys had played against their opponents before, so they didn't know what to expect.

The boys decided that they would start the match conservatively and get a feel for what De Kuilen had to offer. They had nippy forwards who were difficult to mark, but a weak defence with just one big-hitter who never really looked to put the ball into space.

Once this was noticed, the forwards formed a solid defence up front to intercept any passes from their sweeper and pressed hard on their weak defence. Through constant pressure on De Kuilen, their defence soon cracked and the SACS U16C managed to win 2 - 0. This was once again a great team effort and great fun was had by all.

U15A:

The unbeaten SACS U15A team arrived and were eager to retain their winning streak. The weather, however, was hot and humid which affected the readiness of the boys.

From the get-go, SACS dominated the fairly weak Pinelands side, yet they could not secure a goal. From a short-corner, **Ryan Silberbauer** scored a beautiful drag-flick goal to the bottom right, ten minutes into the game. SACS then scored a flurry of goals to be 4 - 0 up at half time.

The boys then set their sights on scoring many more goals in the second half, but they could only score another two to end 6 - 0 ahead at the end of the game.

After the game SACS were not particularly happy about not converting enough of their chances but, they learnt from the experience.



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U14A:

SACS started the match well with good interplay and passing hockey that saw multiple circle entries early on. The significant improvement was the forwards connecting in the circle with passes to the far post, resulting in easy tap-in goals.

At the same time SACS pressed Pinelands so that they couldn't get out the back easily and turnover ball was converted into good circle entries. **Daniel Ossendrywer, Mike McGaw, Chase Coffee and Joshua Roux** all combined



well to score goals which left the half time score at 5 – 0 to SACS.

In the second half, old selfish habits crept in and the number and quality of passes deteriorated. SACS finished 7 – 0 up the end of the



game, which was disappointing after the great start. The team has shown good improvement in their overall game, especially the transfer of the ball.

U14B:

The U14Bs had a very successful game against Pinelands on Saturday morning, winning the fixture 10 - 0! This was mainly due to the two teams being hopelessly mis-matched. This made the one-

sided encounter hard to watch at times, as there truly is no value gained from a 10 - 0 drubbing, for either side.

With that being said, the goals still need scoring and credit must go to the links and forwards for being extremely clinical and ruthless in attack. We still failed to capitalise from penalty corners, and that will have to be addressed with big games against Bosch and Wynberg around the corner.

Notable performances came from super-striker, **Saul Alperstein** (4 goals) and the ever-impressive **Alex McGillivray**, who scored a hat-trick. Our other forwards, **Liyema Waqu** (2 goals) and **Aidan Vlietman** (1 goal) continued their fine form.

Once more, Goalkeeper **Tanner** was spotted fast asleep, this time accompanied by our four defenders, **Asive, Nick, Adam** and **Matt**.

U14C:

Saturday morning, bright and early, saw our boys walking onto the field ready to face their Brakenfell opponents. The boys have slowly grown in confidence on the field as the season has progressed. The hard work that our boys have been putting into our practices on Monday and Wednesday evenings finally showed through.

The first half had a slow start as our boys warmed up and started to pass the ball effectively up the field. We spent a lot of the first half on the attack and had a few close calls at scoring.

The second half was the half to watch, though. The boys were passing beautifully (something which they really struggled with a few weeks ago) and the pace of the game increased.

The boys left the most exciting part of the game to the last two minutes. In these two minutes, **Cale Harrison** managed to get the ball into the goals *twice*! The first attempt was, unfortunately, not counted as he had not taken the ball out of the D in the short corner, but within a minute **Cale** was back at the goals, scoring our first goal of the match.

It was a very exciting and nerve-wracking end to a good game. All in all, the score was 1-1, but our boys walked off the field feeling like champions.

SACS HOCKEY RESULTS vs Pinelands etc

[18th & 19th May 2018]

TEAM	OPPONENTS	SCORE
SACS 1 st	Pinelands	1 - 1
SACS 2 nd	Pinelands	0 - 0
SACS 3 rd	De Kuilen 1st XI	1 - 5
SACS 4 th	Brackenfell 1st XI	5 - 4
SACS 16A	Pinelands	10 - 0
SACS 15A	Pinelands	6 - 0
SACS 16B	Langa 16A	1 - 4
SACS 16C	De Kuilen 16A	2 - 0
SACS 16D	Brackenfell 16A	0 - 8
SACS 14A	Pinelands	7 - 0
SACS 14B	Pinelands	10 - 0
SACS 14C	Brackenfell 14A	1 - 1

SACS HOCKEY vs DF MALAN etc. [Fixture 6]**[25th & 26th MAY]**

TEAM	OPPONENTS	VENUE	FIELD	DAY	TIME
SACS 1 st	DF MALAN	SACS ASTRO	SACS ASTRO	Fri 25 th	19h15
SACS 2 nd	DF MALAN	SACS ASTRO	SACS ASTRO	Fri 25 th	18h00
SACS 3 rd	DF MALAN	SACS ASTRO	SACS ASTRO	Sat 26 th	09h00
SACS 4 th	DF MALAN	SACS ASTRO	SACS ASTRO	Fri 25 th	16h00
SACS 16A	DF MALAN	SACS ASTRO	SACS ASTRO	Fri 25 th	17h00
SACS 15A	DF MALAN	SACS ASTRO	SACS ASTRO	Sat 26 th	10h00
SACS 16B	DF MALAN	SACS ASTRO	SACS ASTRO	Sat 26 th	11h00
SACS 16C	DF MALAN	SACS ASTRO	SACS ASTRO	Sat 26 th	12h00
SACS 16D	Settlers	Settlers	Settlers Astro	Fri 25 th	15h30
SACS 16E	RBHS	WPCC B Astro	WPCC B Astro	Fri 25 th	15h30
SACS 14A	DF MALAN	SACS ASTRO	SACS ASTRO	Fri 25 th	15h00
SACS 14B	DF MALAN	SACS ASTRO	SACS ASTRO	Sat 26 th	08h00
SACS 14C	Tableview	Tableview	Tableview HS	Sat 26th	12h30

