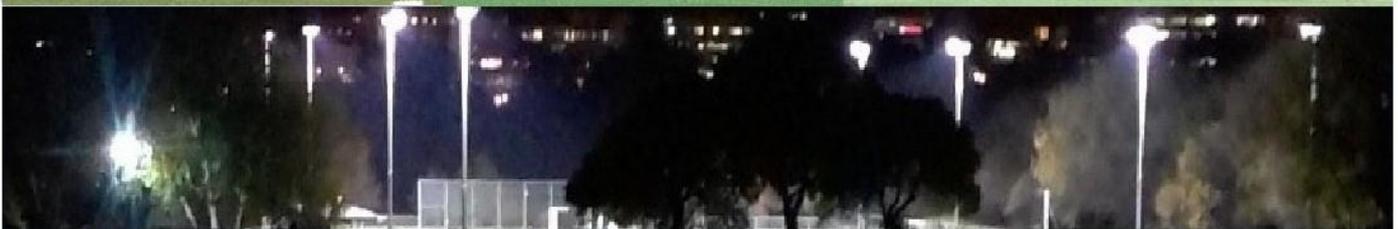




# HOCKEY



May18, 2018



***“I wanna know, have you ever seen the rain, falling down...”***

***(Creedance Clearwater Revival)***

While watching a film this week called "Post", I was reminded about the difficulty of getting a newspaper out under a pressurised deadline. The school's internet connection was damaged and we were without internet connectivity for five days. The goal, as I type this, is to get it out in 36 hours. As they say, "Die SACS kom terug!"



This past weekend was our first Friday with rain since we started videoing games. It is a sobering thought to realise that every Friday hockey event last season was dry. Last Friday, as the rain fell, we experienced the mixture of emotions: discomfort and relief.

Fairmont (from Durbanville) visited us and we also had a couple of teams from Milnerton and Westerford. To the average hockey supporter, Fairmont may not seem to be one of the premier hockey schools, but they are. They have had their own astroturf for almost as long as we have, and their hockey is always of the highest order, as the First XI found out.

It was good to be visited by a former SACS teacher, Elmarie Erasmus, and her husband, Leon. Leon Erasmus is the headmaster of Fairmont.

Good news is that six of our boys have been chosen for Western Province teams. Heartiest congratulations to:

U19A Luke D'Aguiar

U19B Jamie Baxter, Samuel Gildenhuis, Markus Sass

U16A Nathan Ansell, Daniel Opperman

U16B Damian Knott



**This weekend we host Pinelands, and a couple of teams are away to Brackenfell and Langa. How wonderful that Langa now has its own astroturf – having played there on very bumpy grass fields in the past, and seeing how skilled their players are, it can only benefit the game that they have now a “level playing field”, so to speak!**

**Below are match reports from the coaches:**

### **First XI:**

When you are at the top of the game, there is always someone looking to take your place, and this is the case with Fairmont. The four boys schools in the Southern Suburbs are the top hockey schools in Cape Town. However, Fairmont always look for a ‘Big 4 trophy’ each year.



SACS were well-prepared for the game and had a good game plan. The game started brightly for SACS who created some good circle entries and played well defensively. The opening goal came in the second quarter from a penalty corner, **Jamie Baxter** tipping the ball in as the injector.

At half time, Gregg Clark gave a defensive awareness chat to the team. However, the players were caught sleeping and exactly what had been outlined happened twice inside four minutes in the third quarter, putting Fairmont ahead by 2 goals to 1.

The score remained so, despite SACS pressure. Too much inaccuracy in offensive play saw SACS fail to convert when the ball was inside the final quarter of the pitch.



(1st XI photos by Alex Lategan)

The players were very disappointed to give Fairmont what they wanted, but SACS will need to be better at recognising the key moments in games if they want to keep being the hunted, rather than the hunters.

### **Second XI:**

A rainy Friday evening was always going to add a different dimension to the game for both teams. It was not too long before both teams got to grips with the conditions.

Fairmont put us under pressure in the midfield by regularly turning over the ball, and we could not use the midfield as a launch pad to attack from.

Fortunately for us, when Fairmont moved the turnover ball wide, that pass did not find a player, something which took off the pressure on us. We were rewarded for some enterprising play with a penalty corner, which **Daniel Tukker** converted.

**Alexander Lomnitz** kept us ahead by making an excellent save before half time.

The second half was a very strong performance as we displayed more patience on the ball and moved the ball into the wider and deeper spaces.

**Ibrahim Mahmood**, scoring with a low flick, converted our first penalty corner during the second half.



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We did have a touch of luck on our side with a Fairmont shot coming off the post at 2 - 0 up. **Kye Westmoreland** sealed the game for us soon afterwards by scoring a clinical reverse-stick shot to give SACS a 3 - 0 victory. A much-improved second half display by the team.

### **Third XI:**

A trip to Milnerton was made on Saturday morning by the Third Team. Milnerton 1sts were keen on a match and the Thirds were up to the challenge!

The first half started with promise as the Thirds held their own and gave the Milnerton coach a lot to shout about. A promise had been made by the Thirds to spread the ball wider and quicker, with effective use of the trough.

They executed the game plan perfectly and, for a large portion of the match, Milnerton were throwing hopeful overheads and SACS were penetrating their defensive quarter for large passages of play.

Milnerton scored from a low-flung flick during a short corner. **Ryan Britton** wasn't happy with this and made the teams level at 1 - 1. **Julio Dozetos** narrowly missed the back-board after superb build-up play from the defence and midfield. SACS should've been in front.

Milnerton had another short corner near the end of the second half. Another well-executed drag flick into the bottom right gave Milnerton the lead, the SACS post-men unfortunately letting another through. **Kian Grimbeek** had an absolute stellar game in goals, ensuring the scoreline remained competitive.

Some last-ditch efforts from SACS led the match to a nail-biting finish as a Milnerton defender cleared off the line to keep it a SACS loss at 1-2.

The gentlemen of the Thirds have been playing some great hockey and enter the weekend determined on taking the chances on offer and concentrating at all times in defence.

## Fourth XI:

SACS' Fourth team produced another sterling performance against Milnerton High School's Second team on Saturday in Milnerton.

What started off as a rainy and miserable day turned into a beautiful day for hockey and all the SACS teams playing away from home did not disappoint.

The Fourths played some very entertaining and, mostly, a skilful brand of hockey for a team at this level. Beautiful inter-passing created many opportunities which were not always converted. Some, through over excitement, suffered from white-line fever and at times the skills just did not prevail.

We did go into half-time with a one goal advantage through a well-taken right circle entry and good pass to see **Harrison Fowles** put SACS ahead.

In the second half we again squandered a number of chances, but managed to score two more goals by **Thomas Neff** with some good individual skills and an angled finish. He was also on hand to give **Jordi Rojo-Roos** the easiest of tap-ins for the third goal.

A well-earned and satisfying 3 – 0 victory for the Fourths.

## Under 16A:



**Anton van Loggerenberg** was once again away, picking up a medley of awards for the best keeper around (in the Varsity Cup for UCT). The U16As were keen on some prestige too, and kept the fire burning with a bit of dogged determination against Fairmont.

Fairmont were a tidy side and kept the SACS gentlemen concerned in a match that saw some entertaining play. The breakthrough came when **Adrian Boyce** held his nerve down the right-hand side

after a smooth through-ball from midfield. Adrian calmly took the chance and gave the team the 1 - 0 lead they deserved.



SACS never dominated the match, however, and there was disconnect between the midfield and speedy forwards at times. **Damian Knott** and **Daniel Opperman** did well to calm things in midfield when the game got a bit tense. Greater spells of possession and more attentive man-marking will make sure that teams in the future stand even less of a chance.



The boys are learning so much from the resident coaches and professionals and it can be seen in the mindful hockey being played.

### **Under 16B:**

Last week the SACS U16B team faced Fairmont. The opening minutes of the game were evenly contested. SACS created some good chances and were able to manufacture a short corner for themselves midway through the half.

The push-out from the short corner was skew, but **Aydan Wiggill** did well to receive it on his strong side and strike the ball past the goalkeeper. Fairmont managed to manufacture a short corner of their own at the end of the half. They did well to convert, leaving the score tied at 1-1 going into half time.

The second half was as fiercely contested as the first. Both sides had very good chances, but neither managed to find the back of the net. A short corner in the last minute of the game saw SACS captain **Michael Willig** eventually find the crucial goal.

The match ended with SACS winning 2-1. A heroic display of hockey from the U16Bs.

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### **U16C:**

The U16C team were looking to extend their unbeaten streak to three games when they took on Milnerton U16As over the weekend.

It would be the first time the boys had played Milnerton, so the team did not know what to expect. At the outset of the game, Milnerton

had the upper hand, which caught the SACS boys off guard and, within the first two minutes, SACS had to defend two short corners.

The Cs realised the encounter would be quite tough, and immediately sharpened up their defence. With some solid tackling, the U16C managed to put Milnerton on the back foot and some good attacking play was created from deep in the SACS own half.

SACS soon found themselves 1 - 0 up, thanks to **Ben Shirk**. As the second half began, the Cs upped their tempo and it became quite clear that Milnerton had very little left in their tank. **Liam Dawson** and **Alex Schutte** scored two more goals. The match ended at 3 - 1.

Without solid defence at the back and some good exit play by **Thomas Russel** (with his newly-acquired overhead skills), the forwards would not have received such good ball to score the three goals.

#### **U16D:**

We had a good match on Saturday against Westerford U16C with a lot of promising hockey being played. It is good to see the team bonding and finding a rhythm together. I feel, though, that they still lack the intensity of a team that wants to and knows it can win.

As has become a pattern, we started the game slowly. However, we managed to create good plays to create scoring opportunities. The two new caps, **Unimke Apor** and **Daniel Smith**, proved their value to the team by each scoring a goal off (or shortly after) penalty corners in the first half. Our keeper saw very little action and we went into half-time 2 - 0 up.

In the second half the intensity picked up and we earned two penalty corners early on, but were unable to convert. The boys must be commended in following the half-time advice from assistant coach **Reece Nunnerly** (Gr11) which helped with the movement of the ball. This aided **Daniel Smith** to score a second goal after a good run and **Max Fourie** to also add his name to the score card shortly afterwards.

After that, Westerford pressed us hard and we spent a lot of time defending. Well done to the keeper and defence for keeping out four short corners and not allowing Westerford to score.

We ended the game with a convincing 4 - 0 win. It was a good match and we have identified a few areas that we need to work on ahead of our tougher derby opponents later this term.

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### **U16E:**

The U16Es had a comprehensive 5 – 0 win over Westerford on Saturday. **Callum Lee** scored **four** impressive goals and **Tathan Williams** one goal.

Our defence was good as we played without a goalie and only conceded one goal. Our midfield players (links) did not work back often enough to assist the defenders, most probably due to their lack of fitness, but that is something that will improve as the season progresses.

### **U15A:**

After coming off a great victory over Bishops, SACS' next challenge was Fairmont. The SACS boys were keen from the get-go and had good build-up play in the first half, but they could not put the ball in the back of the net.

The Fairmont keeper was displaying great keeping skills and kept Fairmont in the game. The SACS boys still kept being positive and, through a short corner flick to the bottom right from **Ryan Silberbauer**, SACS broke the deadlock.

The Fairmont side followed up by good team play and were dominating for a portion of the game, but were stopped with great composure and tackling skills by the SACS defence. SACS then scored when **Tom Cowen** ran a scintillating baseline run to then pass to **Max Parsons** to score a tap-in from the P-spot. SACS remained 2-0 up for the rest of the game and played some good hockey.

## U14A:

Having lost to Bishops the previous week, the U14As were keen to bounce back with a good performance against Fairmont. After a nervous start, the team found their passing game and, after that, the final result was never in doubt. SACS had plenty of circle entries, but found the keeper's pads impenetrable. Eventually



**Josh Roux** found his way around the keeper and SACS went into half-time one goal up.

The second half was one-way traffic with all the forwards, **Mike McGaw, Chase Coffee and Daniel Ossendryver** netting. **Aiden Fourie** contributed with a solid captain's performance in the midfield. A momentary lapse saw Fairmount sneak a goal, but the end score of 4 – 1 was a good rebound from the previous week.



## U14B:

The boys took on an ever-improving Fairmont side early on Saturday morning. We dominated proceedings from the first whistle, but

struggled to be clinical in the opposition's D and we only managed to sneak one goal through their industrious keeper's defence.

The second half was a complete turn-around after some harsh words were said at half time. We shocked the Fairmont side with a quick few goals that took them completely out of the fixture. **Aidan Vlietman's** back-stick that sent the ball top left was one of the goals of the season - a truly memorable goal!

The game ended at 7- 0. We can take a lot of confidence from this performance, especially in the final third, as our strikers and links are finally starting to operate as a unit. The little defending that we had to do was effective and resolute.

Goalkeeper **Tanner Adshade** was reportedly seen snoozing late in the second half!

Goal scorers: **Vlietman x3, Liyema Waqu, Saul Alperstein, Matthew Johnstone and Sam Senekal.**



### **U14 C and D:**

The U14C team played a strong Milnerton A-side. The boys played a good attacking game throughout, with a goal scored by **Cale Harrison** in the second half and the team were unfortunate to lose 2 - 1. This weekend the team is traveling to Brackenfell High School.

The U14D team faced a very competitive Westerford team. The D team is still figuring out their respective positions, but managed to step up their game in the second half. **Cameron Turner, Bryan Carstens and Caden Mirfin** each scored goals to ensure SACS a 3 - 2 win.

## SACS HOCKEY RESULTS vs FAIRMONT etc

[11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> May 2018]

TEAM	OPPONENTS	SCORE
SACS 1 <sup>st</sup>	Fairmont	1 - 2
SACS 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Fairmont	3 - 0
SACS 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Milnerton 1 <sup>st</sup> Team	1 - 2
SACS 4 <sup>th</sup>	Milnerton 2 <sup>nd</sup> Team	3 - 0
SACS 16A	Fairmont	1 - 0
SACS 15A	Fairmont	2 - 0
SACS 16B	Fairmont	2 - 1
SACS 16C	Milnerton 16A Team	3 - 1
SACS 16D	Westerford 16B team	4 - 0
SACS 16E	Westerford 16C Team	5 - 1
SACS 14A	Fairmont	4 - 1
SACS 14B	Fairmont	7 - 0
SACS 14C	Milnerton 14 A Team	1 - 2
SACS 14D	Westerford 14B Team	3 - 2
<b>Played</b>		<b>14</b>
<b>Won</b>		<b>11</b>
<b>Lost</b>		<b>3</b>
<b>Drawn</b>		<b>0</b>

**SACS HOCKEY vs Pinelands etc [Fix 5]****[18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> May 2018]**

<b>TEAM</b>	<b>OPPONENTS</b>	<b>VENUE</b>	<b>FIELD</b>	<b>DAY</b>	<b>TIME</b>
SACS 1 <sup>st</sup>	Pinelands	SACS	SACS ASTRO	Friday 18 <sup>th</sup>	19h00
SACS 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Pinelands	Pinelands	Pinelands Astro	Friday 18 <sup>th</sup>	17h00
SACS 3 <sup>rd</sup>	De Kuilen	SACS	SACS ASTRO	Saturday 19 <sup>th</sup>	10h00
SACS 4 <sup>th</sup>	Brackenfell	Brackenfell	Brackenfell Astro	Saturday 19 <sup>th</sup>	10h00
SACS 16A	Pinelands	SACS	SACS ASTRO	Friday 18 <sup>th</sup>	17h45
SACS 15A	Pinelands	Pinelands	Pinelands Astro	Friday 18 <sup>th</sup>	16h00
SACS 16B	Langa	Langa	Langa Astro	Saturday 19 <sup>th</sup>	10h00
SACS 16C	De Kuilen	SACS	SACS ASTRO	Saturday 19 <sup>th</sup>	11h00
SACS 16D	Brackenfell	Brackenfell	Brackenfell Astro	Saturday 19 <sup>th</sup>	09h00
SACS 14A	Pinelands	SACS	SACS ASTRO	Friday 18 <sup>th</sup>	16h45
SACS 14B	Pinelands	SACS	SACS ASTRO	Saturday 19 <sup>th</sup>	08h00
SACS 14C	Langa	Langa	Langa Astro	Saturday 19 <sup>th</sup>	09h00
SACS 14D	Brackenfell	Brackenfell	Brackenfell Astro	Saturday 19 <sup>th</sup>	08h00

