



## **Cleevillians - Captain's Report for the 1st XI team – Severn Division 2009-2010**

### **1. Objectives for the season**

The following objectives had been shared with the team and agreed in principal. These are summarised below:

- ◆ **Performance:** During our 1st season in Severn Division reach a mid table position - **Achieved**
- ◆ **Positioning on the field of play:** We will play in a 4-4-2 system with a sweeper - **Achieved**
- ◆ **Pride:** Play with pride, commitment, enthusiasm and most importantly have fun – **Achieved**

### **2. Highlights of the 2009-2010 Season**

- ◆ We welcomed a number of new faces to the Club, including, Simon Trower, Paul Donavan, Will Bower, Dinesh Patel, Mike Kennedy as well Steve Wooding and Sam Newman all whom have played in the 1<sup>st</sup> team
- ◆ Also we had a number of experienced players making a welcome return to play for the 2<sup>nd</sup> XI namely, Tony Griffin, Nik Scarrott and Mike Hall as well as new players including Neil Bravington, Jacob Ellis, Chris North, Ben Jenkins and Alex Barrett
- ◆ During our 1<sup>st</sup> foray in the Severn Division we travelled over 1,400 miles for a game of hockey!!
- ◆ Our fines scheme generated over £400.00 that resulted in a 'grand session' during March. This also gave the opportunity for the 1<sup>st</sup> team squad to assembly at Subtone in Cheltenham suitably attired in the exclusive dress code of their honorable Captain
- ◆ Another first – we hired a 17 seater minibus for our trip to Pembroke County with 'bacon butties' on the way and many 'pee' stops on the return journey.

#### **July and August 2009**

We started our 'light' training session on the 6<sup>th</sup> July at the Swindon Village playing field with Stu Skinner at the helm playing a mixture of rounder's and French cricket with a great turnout with partners and children being involved.

We played our first intra club game on the 15<sup>th</sup> August where our new debutants graced the field of play. The season nearly upon us – bring it on.

#### **September and October 2009**

During September we had three friendly games arranged with Stroud 1<sup>st</sup> XI [losing 1-2] followed by Old Bristolians As [winning 3-2] and the final match was cancelled due to South Glos not being able to field a team.

Our first league game [26 Sept] was against Cardiff & UWIC losing 1-3. This followed in October with matches against Penarth losing 2-5, Neath winning 5-4 – our first league victory, losing to Wotton under Edge 2-3 and again back to winning ways against Pembroke County running out 3-2 victors and finally trouncing Bridgend 6-0.



### **November and December 2009**

During November we started this month by losing to Cardiff & UWIC C 2-3, winning against Gwent 4-3 and losing to Cardiff University A 1-3 and Lansdown 1-3. Our inconsistency remained during our first match in December against Cheltenham B losing by a single goal 1-2, followed by a victory 2-1 against Cardiff & UWIC B.

We had a break of some 4 weeks before the season recommenced in January 2010.

### **January and February 2010**

We held an Intra club match on the 2<sup>nd</sup> January with an excellent turnout to blow away any remaining hangovers – a great way to start 2010.

We were beset by bad weather during the first weeks of January; to overcome this Mike Kennedy and Stu Skinner organised an indoor competition at St Peters School where the skills were left at home for the most part and the slippery floor surface won the day.

Our first league match in January was against Neath where we were victors once again running out 9-3 winners.

In February we played the return match against Pembroke who were down to 8 men and played valiantly losing 8-0. We found ourselves by the sea side at Barry with certain members of the squad being photographed playing on the Barry Island beach, unfortunately, after some much fun was had by so many on the beach we lost to Penarth 3-7 to the eventual winners of the Severn League.

By this time of the season we were in the relegation zone with 4 teams being relegated – things were looking bleak. Once again we lost to Neath 1-3, followed by another loss against Cardiff & UWIC C 2-3.

We needed to take stock and start winning to ensure our status in the Severn League. This started with a 3-3 draw against Gwent.

### **March 2010**

We had 3 very challenging matches in March all of which we needed to gain points to aide our survival. We played Wotton under Edge winning 3-4 playing some combative and stylish hockey throughout the game.

This followed by our crunch match against our local rivals Lansdown winning 2-1 in a hard fought game. Our final match of the season and a must win game was against Cheltenham B's – this by far was the best game we played throughout the season eventually running out as victors 2-1. The champagne was flowing!!

This match was followed by the memorable fines evening at Subtone – enough said.

Great achievement.



### **3. Recommendations**

We certainly have the ability, skill and determination to push for a promotion place next season. However in order to achieve this we will need to make some fundamental changes in the way we perform next season. A few recommendations are listed below for consideration:

- ◆ 1<sup>st</sup> team squad training – increase attendance at training and train independently from the 2<sup>nd</sup> XI squad [number of attendees permitting]
- ◆ Fitness levels to improve – starting training earlier as a team
- ◆ On a monthly basis throughout the season hold an indoor session for improving skills and fitness levels and have fun
- ◆ On a monthly basis hold a team feedback session post training to evaluate our performances during that month and identify ways to improve individually and as a team
- ◆ Actively recruit new players for the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> XI teams
- ◆ Review and reduce if possible our fees and match payments
- ◆ Seek to hold club funding events throughout the year to ensure we maintain our optimum level of cash at the bank [as proposed at last years AGM]
- ◆ Generate interest and look to form a Ladies section within the club for the 2010-2011 season
- ◆ Generate interest and look to form a Men's Veteran section within the club for the 2010-2011 season
- ◆ Gauge views on changing the name of the club and venue for post hockey refreshments
- ◆ Review options to change pitch location for the 2011-2012 season

### **4. Conclusion**

On reflection this has been a memorable first season as Captain on and off the hockey pitch. There are too many team members to thank personally for their contribution, advice and added value to our game. Cheers to one and all.

Adrian Barrett  
26<sup>th</sup> May 2010



## 1<sup>st</sup> XI Facts and Figures – 2009 - 2010

### 2009 – 2010 Severn Division

		Home					Away					GD	Points		
		Pl	W	D	L	GF	GA	W	D	L	GF				GA
1	Penarth	22	10	1	0	52	13	8	1	2	46	32	53	56	
2	Cardiff Uni A	22	10	1	0	44	9	6	1	4	27	20	42	50	
3	Lansdown	22	9	1	1	38	14	4	2	5	24	18	30	42	
4	Cardiff & UWIC C	22	8	1	2	32	16	5	1	5	30	34	12	40	**
5	Cardiff & UWIC B	22	7	0	4	39	23	5	2	4	32	25	23	37	**
6	Wotton-u-Edge	22	6	1	4	38	32	4	1	6	15	24	-3	32	
7	Cleevillians	22	6	0	5	39	23	4	1	6	26	35	7	31	
8	Cheltenham B	22	5	1	5	32	20	4	2	5	23	29	6	29	**
9	Gwent	22	5	4	2	41	28	1	2	8	21	45	-11	24	
10	Bridgend A	22	5	1	5	29	33	2	0	9	16	47	-35	22	
11	Neath	22	1	1	9	23	40	1	1	9	16	55	-56	8	
12	Pembroke County	22	2	2	7	19	35	0	0	11	10	62	-68	3	**

#### Notes:

- \*\* Cardiff & UWIC B - Match 2341 - Match fixing & fake match card by the clubs 'D' team (1 point deducted)
- \*\* Cardiff & UWIC C - Match 2341 - Match fixing & fake match card by the clubs 'D' team (1 point deducted)
- \*\* Cheltenham B - For failing to distribute player resources to fulfil all fixtures on the day. (1 point deducted)
- \*\* Pembroke County - -5 points for failing to pay last season fines by the due date. (5 points deducted)

### Summary of League Results

1st XI (League)	P22 W10 D1 L11 F65 A58
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### Scorers: League and Friendly Fixtures:

Playing for the 1 <sup>st</sup> XI [including Friendly fixtures]	Vince Clark (29), Tom North (15), Ben Link (5), Simon Trower (4), Stu Skinner (4), Will Bower (4), Dinesh Patel (4), Jake Windsor (2), Mike Kennedy (1) and Paul Donavan (1)
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### Appearances: League and Friendly Fixtures

Player's Name	Number of Appearances	Goals
Ade Barrett	24	0
Will Bower	18	4
Jack Chandler	2	0
Vince Clark	19	29
Paul Donavan	23	1
Sean Flanagan	2 [Friendly matches]	0
Toby Flanagan	11	0



Martin Halls	2 [Friendly matches]	0
Mark Johns	18	0
Mike Kennedy	7	1
Ben Link	22	5
Scott Mcilquham	11	0
Sam Newman	2	0
Tom North	19	19
Dinesh Patel	23	4
Stu Skinner	4	4
Big C Smallwood	20	0
Simon Trower	19	4
Jake Windsor	20	2
Steve Wooding	3	0