



WINCHESTER
COLLEGE
Sports Department

Sports Report – Common Time 2024, Week 10 (Vol.1)

Tuesday 12th March 2024

Basketball v Perins School (h): Lost 56-60

Chess v Brighton College (a):

A closer match than the 5.5-0.5 scoreline suggests, with two of those losses looking for a long time like wins, but we had to try and force the games and lost out. Another could have easily been drawn. Top marks to Ben (X) who drew with Brighton's best player on board 1. [DIF]

Hockey v Portsmouth Grammar School (a)

With some spells of good play involving linkups in the midfield and a couple of shots at goal, the 1st XI were optimistic to get a couple of goals past the opposition's keeper at some point. Their goalkeeper saved our best chances at goal of the first half including a powerful shot by Martin (VI:2, I) off a short-corner. Our success in defence was limited however as two goals were slotted past us in quick succession. Strong blocks in defence and the occasional save from Alberto (Vth Book, B) provided some sort of resistance at the back but two more goals before half-time proved that the strikers were able to permeate the back line with too much ease. 4-0 at half time.

Despite a little demoralisation within the team, we were hopeful to get back a few goals. After twenty seconds, however, following a scramble next to the goal, the ball was nudged past our goal line and we were down by five. Soon after the tally was at six with a shot from the edge of the D. Winchester luckily found a little bit of positivity with some shining moments as well as creative play between Aaron (VI:I, G) and Ethan (Vth book, D). Their goalkeeper remained solid, blocking some optimistic shots up top. After a while of decent play, we conceded two more and despite our best efforts to get a goal back, the PGS side proved to be better as they almost reached double digits with a 9-0 win. [Alberto Gianni Garcia, Vth Book, B]

The 2nd XI faced PGS on Tuesday for our 3rd match of the season. Keeping a familiar squad to our previous game there were only a few changes made. As the match began Winchester retained possession strongly and we carried momentum well into their box. Making the most of our chances Mannion-Miles (F) converted a chance in the first 2 minutes to put us 0-1 up. This play continued with Inglis (B) putting the ball in the net once more for our 2nd goal of the match. With more cleverly worked passes on the right hand side from Hawkins (K) to Winkley (D) they were able to set Mannion-Miles (F) up for his 2nd goal and the team's 3rd. The first half ended 0-3 and was indicative of the high work rate and team attitude the team displayed. Setting clever presses and making good challenges we retained control of the game, Jin (I) and Tait (G) put in impressive shifts in midfield making plenty of interceptions. PGS's best chance of the first half only happened from a communication error between the two centre backs putting them through to a two on one with the goalie but Hagger (D) remained composed under pressure keeping the result at the end of the first half 0-3.

In the second half Busby (F), Lecourt (K), and Hunt (D) remained attacking threats in the opponents' half of the pitch and were well supplied with passes through the wings and the middle of the pitch. However, as weariness began to creep in and the midfield began to track back less and less the back two of Edwards (K) and Hensher (D) were working overtime and after a series of short corners that Frost (G) assisted in defending we conceded one. As the 2nd half continued



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to turn in PGS' favour Hagger (D) made lots of excellent saves saving us from what could have been a disappointing result. Conceding a 2nd goal in the 2nd half we were just able to hold onto our lead to finish the game 2-3 with an away win. We look forward to playing matches on Thursday and Saturday again this week and as a captain it's really great to see the team's confidence building week on week and our hockey improve not only individually but also as a team. [Noah Hensher. VIth Bk 1, D]

Rackets v Radley College (a):

The Radley court proved very different to Winchester's which is known for its slower and kinder characteristics. Radley, in comparison, produced a lightning pace both off the floor and the walls. This made it a particularly challenging test, but also a useful preparation for the imminent National Schools Championships.

Dima Kasumov and Oscar O'Carroll, on first, struggled to get into the match against a very strong pair who looked comfortable on their home court, losing 3-0. Jack Bristowe and Amar Fernando, a new partnership, showed patches of dominance and managed a respectable 3-1 loss, considering the testing conditions.

1st pair, Henry Nicholls and Bertie Vallat, found themselves 14-0 down in game 1 to an accomplished pair of twin brothers, seeded 3 in the 1st pairs championships. Returning serve appeared almost impossible on both sides as the ball seemed to roll along the floor having hit the back wall. However, somehow, they clawed their way back to 14-all and won the game in the set. Henry has had better match days but still managed to succeed in the basics in returning enough serves and delivering sufficient aces, to keep the pair competing. Bertie meanwhile, got up the court and stroked the ball at pace on difficult lines which forced the opposition into retreat. Although Radley managed to take one game relatively easily Bertie's dominance proved too much for the twins and the final result was a 3-1 victory to Winchester.

Tuesday 12th – Thursday 14th March

Fencing: Public Schools Championships, Lee Valley Athletics Centre

Rajesh P (H), Sebastian Y (H), Max W (C) and Oscar D-P (E) headed up to London to fence at the annual Public Schools Fencing Championships. JP man Max W had entered into the U14 Epee, with the others in the Senior Foil. The largest fencing-related event of the year, fencers from Winchester College competed against over 200 students from across the country. Rajesh P (H), and Sebastian Y (H) were plunged into the deep end, being put in the first and fifth seed respectively. Though both fencers managed to proceed to the next elimination round, Rajesh managed to hold onto his position by the skin of his teeth. The second round was just as unforgiving. Despite a valiant performance, and a well-earned win, Rajesh saw himself eliminated at a 54th place tie. Oscar D-P and Sebastian managed to progress into the direct elimination rounds with 2 and 3 wins out of a maximum 4. Misfortune struck however, Seb earning himself a personal best of 4 yellow cards, and Oscar with 2. The final score came out as (10-15) for Seb, and (6-15) for Oscar, being placed at 34th and 43rd respectively.

Max W secured more success however, winning all of his matches within the first two elimination rounds and coming through the first d/e with an impressive (10-2), and the second with (10-1). This series of deservedly fortunate events ended during his bout at the quarterfinals, finding



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himself at a (6-10) loss and placing himself in 10th. All in all, decent performances were put up by all fencers involved with Max being the obvious M.V.P of the day. (Sebastian Y, H)

Wednesday's schedule saw four Wykehamists, Callum M (F), Lucien G (E), Thomas F (E), and Bruno J (X), competing. Callum was set to fence in the Senior Epee category, whereas the others entered into Mount-Haes Foil (Under 14s). Over 110 fencers across the country took part in the Senior Epee event, and more than 90 foilists competed in the Mount-Haes category. Round 1 consisted of fencers being split into groups of 5, with fencers taking part in 4 matches each to a total of 5 points. Callum was up first, winning 3 of his 4 matches, effectively guaranteeing his place in the next round. However, fencing in Round 2 was no easy feat, as Callum was set against more-experienced fencers who would later place in the top 20. In the end, after two difficult fights and two close losses (2:1 and 5:4), Callum was eliminated, ranking overall at 85.

In Mount-Haes Foil, the lads were doing very well, with Lucien (E), Thomas (E) and Bruno (Coll) all making their way through Round 1 into Round 2. Unfortunately, Thomas narrowly missed advancing into the next round, and after 1 valiant win and 3 close losses, was eliminated at a final ranking of 61st place. Not long after, Bruno (Coll), who had advanced into the Table of 64 (which consisted of single duels to 10 points), was eliminated at 50th place overall following a fantastic effort against an opponent ranked 16th (Bruno had been ranked 49th). Nearby, Lucien (E) progressed through the Table of 64 into the Table of 32. Sadly, the round ended at 10-8 loss to Lucien, and Lucien was eliminated, ending at 20th place. All in all, every fencer involved gave their very best in the competition. Callum MacBean (F)

Edward T (X) started off the **final day** of the championships with the Boys Senior Sabre. In a competition in which he was very much out of his depth, he fought calmly despite some strong opposition, but was knocked out in the second round of pools. Tabitha P (I) had much greater success in the Girls Senior Sabre, moving swiftly through the pool stage and into the knockouts. Here she got off to a confident start, with a 15:2 victory over her first opponent. However, after a tense second knockout match, in which she fought with tenacity to the end Tabitha was defeated but finished an impressive fifth overall. (Edward T, X)



Thursday 14th March 2024

Basketball v Marlborough College (a):

Winchester took a drastically reduced team of six to Eton due to injuries, Winkies and illness. It didn't help that Marlborough have their strongest ever team, so although the score doesn't look good, Winchester fought really hard to limit the hosts to 62 (the score can easily go over 100 in



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games like this). The bright side is that several players got to play big minutes in this game, and the team should be proud of their high levels of work and commitment. L64-26 [LNT]

The U14s have shown huge potential this year, and it is a shame that illness, injury and a couple of daft mistakes/missed lay-ups cost them this game. Excuses aside, they will also know that they did not play their best and, even with the extra challenges, this was a game they could have won. There was no lack of effort though, and when they got it right they played really well in patches. So, some lessons learned, all of which will help them keep improving; they once again showed signs that they could be a very strong team in the years ahead. L42-35[LNT]

Football v Canford (a):

A **Senior XI** took on Canford School for the final fixture of the term. Against a strong Canford side, we focused on keeping our composure and controlling possession of the ball, which worked particularly well. This was soon rewarded when a counter-attack initiated by Seb B (G) made its way to Adan R (H), who headed it onto Timothy O (I). With a 1v1 opportunity against the Canford goalkeeper, Tim took full advantage of it and calmly slotted the ball at the back of the net, giving a 1:0 lead to Winchester.

We continued to dominate the game after the 1:0 lead, with special mentions to Arthur H (B) and Dom J(A) who managed the game well at the centre-half position, and also Seb K (A) who gave the Canford defence a hard time through his pressing.

In the second half, we focused on exploiting Canford through long balls as the wind was in our favour. A second goal beautifully crafted by Jason C (F) which took a deflection off a Canford defender saw Winchester up 2:0. With everyone being more comfortable on the ball, we were relentless in getting more goals. Further goals by Tim saw the game ended at 4:0, although more goals could have been awarded but were disallowed for offside. It was nice to see the passion that everyone had coming into the game, and it was well rewarded with a dominating win. Many thanks to Mr Dodd as well for effectively managing the game at the side-lines. W 4:0 (Jason Ma, C)

This was a really good performance from the **2nd Senior XI** and I was delighted with how the team coped, as they had very little "game" time together before the match. We took the lead midway through the first half when Arthur D made a great run down the left wing and crossed into the box where Daniel G finished first time into the bottom corner of the net. We held the lead for about 10 minutes but were then guilty of given away a needless corner. We then did not clear our lines from the resulting corner and the Canford forward scored with a good shot giving Theo in goal no chance.

Into the second half and there were chances at both ends, with Theo making a couple of fine saves. We then scored when Arthur received the ball on the edge of the 18 Yard line and finished very well with his right foot into the right hand corner of the goal. Canford pushed for an equaliser, but we managed to hold onto the 2-1 scoreline. I was very pleased with how the lads applied themselves and tried to play, particularly from the back and into midfield, well done to all. [PNG]

Climbing vs Embley School

A first ever climbing fixture for WinColl, Adventure Education took seven pupils to Parthian Climbing Centre for a fixture against Embley School. Pupils represented themselves and the school



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really well and have been training weekly to gear up towards this fixture. Despite some fantastic efforts from all, we ended up second best in a closely contested fixture. The match comprised of varied top rope routes ranging between 4a -6c on a nasty overhang, and also some challenging bouldering tasks to conquer. Embley had a particularly strong individual who managed to complete all routes given, if the Winchester climbing squad was at full strength and without injuries I think we would have been close to winning this one. A great experience for all involved with an appetite now to get another fixture in the diary for Cloister. Exciting to think we could be at the independent climbing schools championships this time next year.. (JXD) (Climbers were: Rhys Downer, Asher Li, Harith Patel, Vas Stepanov, alexander Taylor, Eddie Wheeler, Oliver Street)

Golf 1st v Canford (a): W3-0

Isaac Haines & Seb Wells - WON 6&5

Ray Sanmathy & James Redfern - WON 8&7

Harry Ho & Taanvir Sood - WON 5&4

Hockey v Dauntsey's School

Following a slightly demoralising match on Tuesday, Winchester 1st XI set off on the right foot in their home match with fluid passing from the defence, counterattacks leading to short corners and constant pressure on their back line led by Martin (VI:2,I). When the whistle blew for the end of first quarter we were praised for "the best hockey played by any Winchester side" in a long time. This was quickly disregarded in the second quarter through Stephen's (VI:1,F) excellent dribbling accompanied perfectly with James' (VI:2,B) defensive masterclass and Isaac's (JP, K) composure to award us again with "the best hockey played by any Winchester side" in a not very long time. Mario's (VI:1,B) countless saves and a last man block onto our post by Inigo (VI:2,A) kept us in that game. However, as all good things do come to an end, they finally broke past our previously impenetrable defence scoring off a rebound from a short corner late in the third quarter. After another poor rebound goal in the fourth quarter, we were disheartened and lost our touch a little. A couple outstanding solo goals came in quick succession after that to seal the well-fought game. Nevertheless, there were elements of positivity throughout the game which we will hopefully be able to replicate on Saturday and in future seasons. L4-0 [Ethan X, Vth,D]

Thursday gave the 2nd XI their second match that week. Building upon Tuesday's squad with three new MP boys, Matthews, Lewis, and Edwards brought up from the U15As. Starting off the game the Dauntsey's umpire introduced himself as never having umpired a game of hockey before giving the game a strange feel from the go. We started strong retaining lots of possession and had a few chances in the first half created by some clever work on the wing between Lewis and Matthews. Edwards was strong in midfield working with Tait to create an unstoppable pair that carved through their midfield. They retained momentum well taking free hits quickly putting more balls in the box and making their goalie work to block a few shots. Dauntsey's still remained threatening but a balanced first half ultimately led to it ending 0-0.

The 2nd half started well with Tait coming back on after an injury and continuing to put the work in at his midfield position. Hunt did well to put a few balls in the box with Inglis and Lecourt on the end of them but unable to convert. However, a very physical foul on Tait which saw him knocked to the ground the play became very scrappy with lots of back sticks and stick tackles not given. As the 2^{nds} became more exhausted and the rain started to pour, they began to track back less and less putting Hensher, Hoffman and A Gianni Garcia into work at the back. Frost and



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Matthews worked well on the wings blocking out any quick counterattacks from Dauntsey's. Conceding a few short corners, after some strong saves from A, Gianni Garcia we were able to hold on till the end for a well-earned 0-0 draw. (Noah H, VIth Bk 1, D)

U15A v KE Southampton U15B L6-0

Netball 1st VII v Canford School (h): L17-44

Saturday 16th March 2024

Cross Country OW's (h)

Fives v Tonbridge School

U18A: Winchester won 100-67

U16A: Winchester won 145-85

Football JCA's v Milton Abbey School (h):

The JCAs took on Milton Abbey for the second time this year. It was a dominant start to the game from Winchester with the team playing eloquent football and after a few half chances, we won a corner which was beautifully delivered in by Freddie L (C), the cross met the head of Alex M (I) and glided into the top right corner, 1-0. Gio S (D) and Jesse F (C) were controlling the midfield playing ambitious through balls in behind to our wingers, but Oliver K (X) and James H (D) were just as solid at the back nullifying any attacking threat that came our way. After some intricate passes around the box, on the half turn Prince G (D) took a snapshot that went through the legs of the Milton Abbey keeper and just trickled over the line. Just a few minutes later Prince scored again after some great movement from himself and slotted it past the keeper.

Positive words were exchanged at half time and the boys went out again with great intensity. A brief lapse in concentration led to a loose ball in midfield and their striker was put in behind and finished well for 3-1. The game started to become scrappier with loose gaps appearing on our right side, but our defence stayed composed to limit the chances. Good build up play on the right side led to a ball from Ludo B (I) ending up bouncing around in the box for Freddie to clinically finish on the volley, we gained confidence from this and started to dominate once again. Unfortunately, after a slip from our defender, a cross from their winger met their centre forward who finished deftly, but this did not faze us as Prince completed his hat trick after scoring the rebound of his own shot. 5-2

The whole squad put in good performances and grew in confidence throughout the game. Freddie L constantly dangerous in attack, Oli K composed at the back and Oskar S making saves when he had to, but Prince's brilliant three finishes were the pick of the bunch on this occasion. W 5-2 [Jesse F, (C)]

Hockey v St Edward's School

On Saturday, the **First XI**, under the leadership of the Ancelotti-like Mr Taylor, played their last game of the season. Unfortunately it didn't go our way and there were a couple of little distractions which cost us all around. However, the team has grown in all aspects, maturing and improving gameplay and next season should be filled with many a victory. It was the last game for the stalwarts of the team: Stephen L (H), our clinical midfielder, Miles P (H), the Beckenbauer-like rock at the



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back and the Courtois-like keeper Mario G-G (B). Many thanks to Mr Flynn and Mr Taylor for accompanying us on this journey. L2-3 [Mario (B)]

The final game of the **2nd XI** season was at home to St Edward's School where a fitting display of hockey was shown. The game started tightly as both teams looked threatening with early shots on target. St Ed's took an early lead but Winchester fought back with a nicely slotted goal from Frost. The first half finishing at 1-1.

The second half was also another thriller with both defences being pushed hard and working at max output. With about 5 minutes to go Mario G-G put in a thunderous strike to give Winchester a late winner and go on to win the fixture. A special mention to Noah Hensher as he played his final game for Winchester College Hockey and to Mr Flynn and Miss Bonham for running the team.

The **U15s** travelled to Teddies for our final game of the season. We started brightly on the front foot creating lots of opportunities and got the reward for it, with Gabriel (B) scoring an early goal with a neat finish. We continued to keep possession and push forwards, using the space on the pitch well by playing the ball out wide and in behind the defence on several occasions. This worked well with Ehaan (F) doubling our lead midway through the first half. He got another soon after and we took a 3-goal lead into half time.

Teddies came out stronger in the 2nd half and started to have more of the ball. However, we managed to get a 4th as Isaac (K) scored a fantastic solo goal, dribbling the ball from inside our own half past half of their team before firing high into the goal. Teddies responded with a great strike from a short corner and another soon after, but we stood firm otherwise in defence and had scored enough to win the game to end the season with a convincing performance and result. [William H, D]

Missing the 3 most experienced hockey players from the side (who had been promoted to the U15s) might have caused a loss of structure for the **U14** team, however, the trio of Paterson, Lee and Henry in midfield stepped up to the opportunity and played some excellent inter-linking hockey. Good pass-and-move in the centre allowed us to progress the ball swiftly forward where Scott-Moncrief and Irvine were able to take good advantage of opportunities presented to them. Scott-Moncrief calmly finished from an early PC in the 5th minute. Irvine then added his first goals in hockey, the first with a reverse-stick finish from 6 yards and then his second with a solid strike from 8 yards. Both had come from good attacking play from Scott Moncrief on the left and responded to a St. Edward's equaliser.

We continued to play good hockey, with our half-backs, Franks and Fitzwilliams, increasingly getting involved in attacking play and providing width. We created quite a few more chances that we did not take. Carnegie and Fletcher tended to prevent much danger from reaching Pang in goal, and we began to win the ball back higher and sooner from our hosts' 16s and free hits as we got our defensive shape set up faster. Having wasted a few chances, it was pleasing when Singh swept in our fourth goal shortly before the end of the game. It was a good display from the team and pleasing to see some new goal scorers take their opportunities. W1-4 (JMB)



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Sunday 17th March 2024: Judo ~ HMC Competition

A team of WinColl judoka attended the HMC championships on Sunday 17th March. This is an



individual competition with individual medals awarded in the age banded weight groups. A shield is also awarded to the highest scoring school. With 5 points awarded for an individual Gold, 3 for Silver and 3 for Bronze.

It was a close finish with Whitgift School and Harrow School separated by just 2 points. Winchester who placed 3rd were 14 points adrift from Harrow, despite some excellent individual performances

across the group, particularly given that for 8 members of our squad this was a first formal competition. With a maximum of 15 entries allowed per school our squad was somewhat depleted with only 12 available on the day (from our intended 15). A big thank you to the enthusiastic group of parents that attended and to Rob Maurency for his help with mat side coaching duties. (MF)

Results Juniors:-

Bruno Jelinko Bronze, Aaron Leung Bronze , Roscoe Pavry Bronze

Intermediates:-

Ronin Haider Gold and an additional Bronze for valiantly accepting an invitation to compete in a higher weight group!

William Holmes Gold, Eson Pu Silver, Ernest de Maria Bronze, Harry Morgan Bronze, Alex de Vrieze Bronze

Seniors:-

Oliver Ryan Silver, Ben Allison Silver, Matius Lenton Silver

All fixtures details can be found on: <https://sportsfixtures.winchestercollege.org/>

Sporting quote for the week:

When you're good at something, you'll tell everyone. When you're great at something, they'll tell you."
(Former NFL Hall of Famer, Chicago Bears, Walter Payton)

M.S. Burley

Director of Sport

18th March 2024

X: @WinCollSports