

Premier Match Report

25th July v Takapuna

Premier Women

Somerville Premier Women travelled over the bridge for a table topping clash against Takapuna Premier Women on Saturday. Both teams were equipped with skilled players, making the game a very tough battle. Takapuna played a fast and physical game. This put Somerville under pressure and allowed us to practice the quality of our out-letting whilst under immense pressure from the opposition. Somerville also focused on leading within our positions to present options on outlets. This match was a perfect opportunity for Somerville to put their training into action against a particularly strong side.

Takapuna with Blackstick Megan Hull in defense presented a physical challenge for our Somerville strikers. This physical battle resulted in the first card of the game with Lucy Bannatyne receiving a green card. Lucy and Megan's ongoing battle entertained the crowd throughout the match.

The game was relatively even amongst both teams, with similar possession and attacking opportunities. However, the second quarter was certainly the most action packed throughout the match with all three goals of the game scored in this quarter. Somerville's Jasmin McQuinn scored the first goal off of a powerful shot from a penalty corner. Takapuna came back firing with Kirsten Pearce scoring their first goal five minutes later. Bringing the game to 1-1. Although, Somerville came back again with a tie-breaker goal only one minute later by Anna Bannatyne, scoring a beautiful reverse shot on a counterattack.

With all three of the goals of the match scored in the second quarter, Takapuna battled hard to score another goal whilst Somerville attempted to maintain their 2-1 lead throughout the second half of the game. This was an aggressive and challenging battle between both teams, resulting in two more cards in the last half of the match. Takapuna's Rebecca Botica was presented a yellow card in the third quarter whilst Somerville's Maddie Dowe received a green card in the final quarter.

Somerville maintained their 2-1 lead despite the pressure from the opposition. This was an extremely competitive and entertaining game with a tight score-line. It was a good opportunity for Somerville to be challenged by a well drilled and physical side. The coaching staff for Somerville; Jason Butcher, Hitu Patel and managerial staff, Christina Thompson and Samantha Charlton enjoyed the afternoons visit to a great hockey facility and believe the learning experience the team took from this match will benefit us heading into the latter rounds.

Final score: 2-1 (Somerville)
Goal scorers: (Jasmine McQuinn, Anna Bannatyne)
Match Report: Bella Armstrong

Premier Men

Last Saturday Somerville travelled to North Harbour to play the second team on the Inter-City table Takapuna, who amongst other fine players field Blacksticks George Muir and David Brydon.

We were still missing several players due to injury but pleased to welcome the return of Blackstick Dwayne Rowsell (back from concussion). With an energetic start from both teams and despite several good scoring chances created by the home team it was the blue and whites who scored first with a nice bottom right drag flick by Ollie MacIntyre. Feathers now ruffled, the second quarter was more even with Takapuna scoring off a penalty corner to level the scores 1-1.

In the third quarter another corner was awarded to Takapuna which they capitalised on after a defection, taking the lead 2-1.

Somerville tried hard to get even for the remainder of the quarter, Takapuna pouncing on any opportunity to counter attack but our Blackstick keeper Leon Hayward saved many rocketing balls. Last quarter and much at stake. Finally, in the 8th minute Somerville's perseverance paid off and another penalty corner was awarded. Dwayne powered the ball through the defence for a 2-2 score-line. A very exciting, tight 8 minutes remained with Leon again showing his athleticism and class. A draw and a very positive result.

Final score: 2-2
Goal scorers: (Ollie MacIntyre, Dwayne Rowsell)
Match Report: Robbie Stuart