

ROSS 3 – 1 WOTTON B 25/2/2006

Return of Hockey Stalwart in Ross Win

Ross Men's 1st XI line-up for last Saturday's home fixture against Wotton-under-Edge B was graced by the presence of Herefordshire hockey stalwart Pete Jenkins who, despite being the team coach, was making his first appearance in some years for a side for whom he used to appear before moving onto greater things. Jenkins joined a number of Ross regulars enjoying a golden twilight to their hockey careers as the team cemented its position in third position by winning 3-1, six points ahead of the teams beneath them in the division with only three games of the season left to play.

In some ways, however, this was an uninspired performance by Ross. Going ahead through a clinical Adrian Williams strike after only two minutes of the game may have lured Ross into a false sense of security as their play in the opening twenty minutes was generally lacklustre. Indeed, Wotton soon drew level, although this was one of the few occasions when the visitors found a route through the experienced Ross defence of James Adamson, Tim Jones and Edward Peck; when they did they were repulsed by the increasingly confident Steve Evans in the Ross goal, whose kicking was superb throughout.

In midfield, Andy Cross continued his recent run of bad luck, limping off with a knee injury mid-way through the first half. It was his replacement, Christian Franklin, who put Ross back in the lead as Sam Warner put some snap and crackle into the midfield, alongside Brian Clare, Phil Evans, Jenkins and Williams. Up-front, Richard Harbottle was clearly still trying to find his usual silky first touch following his recent sojourn in foreign climes whilst Wilem Haagen and captain Andy Ridgway were as industrious as ever.

In the second half, Ross' third – and Williams' second – put the outcome beyond doubt and Ross played out a comfortable win. He was duly voted Brabo Man of the Match on the simple basis that his excellent finishes had given Ross their two goal margin of superiority. Thanks are also due to umpires John Setchfield and Pete Hughes.

| Hereford & Glos 2 | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|---|
| Cheltenham C | 1 Cheltenham D | 1 |
| Cirencester C | 3 Lydney A | 3 |
| Glos City D | 1 Hereford C | 4 |
| Newent B | 1 Newent A | 7 |
| Ross on Wye | 3 Wotton-u-Edge B | 1 |
| Winchcombe | 0 Lansdown C | 2 |

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| 2639 | Cheltenham D | v | Cirencester C |
| 2640 | Hereford C | v | Cheltenham C |
| 2641 | Lansdown C | v | Ross on Wye |
| 2642 | Lydney A | v | Winchcombe |
| 2643 | Newent A | v | Glos City D |
| 2644 | Wotton-u-Edge B | v | Newent B |