

Mens' Hockey

Rhyl 3 – 4 Dysynni

4 March 2007

Dysynni travelled to Rhyl on Sunday for their latest North Wales League match and came away the victors, cementing their position as current leaders in the North Wales Hockey League. The first half saw Dysynni playing into the wind and rain but this didn't dampen their enthusiasm one bit. The match was evenly balanced from the start and it was Dysynni who opened the scoring after around 10 minutes with yet another thundering shot from Steve Bowen from the top of the D – a move that had started with Steve back in his own half, passing the ball to captain Adrian Bennett who unselfishly laid it back into Steve's path to power home.

Attacking play then ensued at both ends and a series of chances failed to turn into goals for either side until Rhyl managed to convert a short corner through a well struck drive from their captain. Dysynni failed to gain the lead again from this point onwards despite numerous chances. Rhyl persevered and managed to put one more past the Dysynni defence just before half time. Stalwart defender Phil Parton had to leave the pitch with a minor injury and Dysynni went into the half time break 2-1 down.

With Dysynni gaining the wind advantage for the second half, it wasn't long before the chances started coming and some great passing play, starting with Harry Davies back in the Dysynni defence produced their second goal. His neat pass to the right wing found Dave Bowen who tore up the pitch to the Rhyl goal line before laying back a perfect pass to son Steve to hammer goalwards. A great stop by the Rhyl keeper wasn't enough to prevent Josh Haylock taking advantage and putting the loose ball away, bringing the score back to 2-2.

Rhyl answered immediately, intercepting a Dysynni hit out and driving home an unstoppable shot, even for keeper and man of the match, Dan Commander.

Pressure was mounting on both sides again, the importance of the points for two teams so close was apparent. Both teams had several chances but Rhyl were kept at bay by some tremendous goalkeeping and staunch defending by Trevor Humphries and Harry Davies and supported by substitute Richie Wall. Dylan Jones and Shaun Redmond made some penetrating runs but the Rhyl defence was proving hard to crack. Even the open goal that presented itself to Adrian Bennett couldn't be beaten.

With around 15 minutes left, Dysynni managed to pull level again from a neatly worked short corner taken by Brian Sellick, passed back to him by Steve Bowen for a shot just inside the near post.

As the minutes ticked away the pace picked up again and as it began to look like a draw was the likely result Shaun Redmond picked up the ball at the top of the Rhyl area and found Jamie Hooper in space with time to control the ball and drive the ball home for his first senior goal and Dysynni's winner.

Final score – Rhyl 3, Dysynni 4

Next fixtures – Wrexham v Dysynni (Away) on 10th March

Dysynni v Colwyn Bay (Home) on 11th March