

Dysynni Men's Hockey

Dysynni Men's Hockey Team got their first season in the North Wales Hockey League off to a good start by winning 2-1 in an away match against Llandudno.

The teams were fairly evenly matched with a good mixture of youth and experience on both sides. Play was fairly balanced initially with attacks on both goals being kept out by staunch defending. After around 10 minutes Dysynni broke through the Llandudno midfield. Josh Haylock received the ball in the centre of the opposition half, passed left to captain Adrian Bennett who struck the ball hard across the top of the D to find Dave Bowen who drove the ball home past the keeper, just inside the right post.

Llandudno fought back with several sweeping attacks but were held at bay by Dysynni's defence, well-organised by Phil Parton. Dysynni maintained the attack pressure too throughout the first half and this was rewarded with a penalty corner being given with around 20 minutes gone. Adrian Bennett received and shot only to have it blocked by an opposition foot. The umpire allowed the advantage for Tom Lewis to strike the loose ball home for Dysynni's second.

The last 10 minutes allowed subs Dylan Jones and Dan Commander to venture forth and help contain Llandudno's increased pace and determination. Only some exceptional saves by keeper Iestyn Richards and great tackling by youngsters Harry Davies and Little Richie and an exceptional performance by subsequent Man of the Match Trevor Humphreys managed to keep them out in the first half.

In the second half Llandudno made a couple of substitutions and came out attacking again. Midfielders Jamie Hooper and Stewart Langston found themselves having to track back to assist the defence for some prolonged attacks and it wasn't long before Llandudno's Gary Jones ran onto a rebounded shot to tuck it away cleanly for the home side.

With only one goal in it the pressure mounted and the rest of the game saw opportunities missed at both ends of the field. Harry Davies had to be substituted with around 10 minutes to go having been hit on the arm by a high ball, but once the short stoppage was over, the pressure resumed at both ends although Llandudno threw everyone into attack for the final 5 minutes and Dysynni found themselves having to respond accordingly with all of their players now in defence.

Nevertheless, they hung on for a well-deserved victory. Although the game could have gone either way, Dysynni had the lion's share of the chances. Captain Adrian Bennett commended all of the players on their performances and said how delighted he was that Dysynni had got off to a winning start.

Next fixture: Dysynni v Colwyn Bay (Away), 21 October.