



18th February 2024, 17:30



Herne Bay Utd are in town

Today we welcome Herne Bay Utd to Bushfields. HBU are seeking a top six finish again after qualifying last season for the finals just like ourselves this was their first season back in the top flight for a few seasons finishing the season in sixth place.

HBU are a young side captain Brendan Barker and vice captain Engelbert Vilanova bring a veteran presence.

PRHC are unbeaten in their last six games and currently sit in third place in the league HBU are occupying the sixth position one point ahead of ECU but with two games in hand on both ECU and ourselves.

With all the points carried forward to the final six finals this is an important three points for both clubs as I am sure both teams would like to improve on their positions from last season.

With two games left for the team in blue and white and both at Bushfields Peterborough will be hoping that home advantage will see them pick up another two victories but they know this will be difficult against two other sides chasing wins to finish as high as they can in the top six also.



The replay for this game will be available on our YouTube channel @PeterboroughRHC66

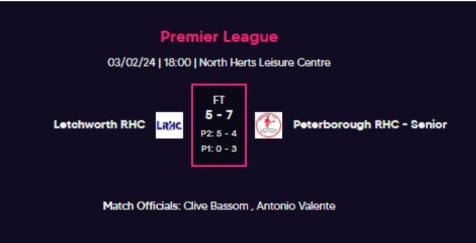




Premier League

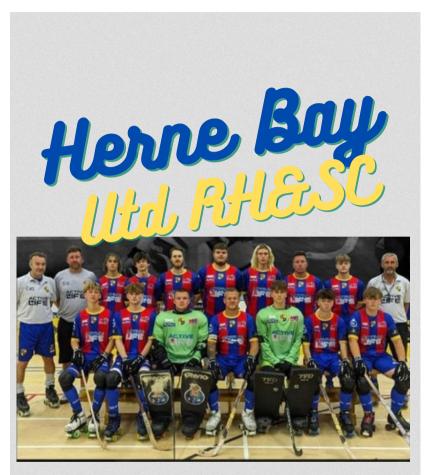
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Last Time Out



Fixtures

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17/02/24 09:00	Manchester RSC - Senior 🛗	Home Bay RHC - Senior	Ardwick Sports Centre
17/02/24 16:00	Plymouth INIC - Senior 👻	U Dy & Chesterton United RHC - Senior	Coombe Dean School
17/02/24 18:15	Kings Lynn RHC - Senior 🔤	Hiddlesbrough IBIC - Senior	Alive Lynnsport
17/02/24 19:15	Soham 1940 - Senior 🖻	Grimsby RHC	Ross Peers Sports Centre
17/02/24 19:45	BHC Invicta - Senior 🖁	Lenchworth RHC	Bay Sports Arena
10/02/24 17:30	Penerborough 184C - Senior 🛄	S Herne Bay United RHC - Senior	Bushfield Leisure Centre



- 1. Charlie Holmes (GK)
- 3. Finley Key
- 4. Nathan Tickner
- 5. Will Hosking
- 7. Jasper Dobson

8. Joseph Barley

- 54. Engelbert Vilanova
- 55. Ashley Barton
- 99. Brendan Barker (C)
- 30. Edden Dobbs (GK)

Coach: Simon Hosking



- 1. Anthony Williams (GK) 6. Harry Hillam
- 2. James Berry
- 3. Jake Reed
- 4. Joshua Aaltonen
- 5. Michael Carter (C)
- 11. Thomas Hillam
- 15. Luca Oakley
- 10. Tyler Salmon (GK)

Coach: Arthur Corr





Match Report - Premier League Phase 1 - Letchworth versus Peterborough - 3rd February 2024 Match Report by Terry Oakley Premier League - Phase 1 Referees:- Clive Bassom and Antonio Valente Letchworth versus Peterborough 3rd February 2024 at North Herts Leisure Centre, Letchworth Garden Citv

Letchworth Squad

- 1 Reiff Hayward (Goalkeeper played 2nd) 1 Anthony Williams (Goalkeeper) 2 Sasha Aitken 3 Marco Giancola 4 Nick Flint (Captain) 7 Mackenzie Allen 8 Ollie Marshall 9 Lilv-Rose Chandler 25 Louie Allen (Goalkeeper - played 1st) 44 Charlie Sharp 66 Oli Sabatini-Stockford
- Peterborough Squad 2 James Berry 3 Jake Reed 4 Josh Aaltonen 5 Michael Carter (Captain) 6 Harry Hillam 15 Luca Oakley 11 Tom Hillam 10 Arran Hall (Goalkeeper) - played whole game



Peterborough started the game at full speed and played their usual fast moving hockey and in the early stages dominated possession of the ball. Letchworth quickly racked up 8 team fouls in the first 15 minutes of the match. During that period Peterborough had moved ahead with two goals. The first being scored by Michael Carter after the Letchworth goalkeeper had saved a shot only for him to parry the ball out to Michael who confidently slotted the ball into the net. The second involved a fast move down the left involving Luca Oakley and Harry Hillam. Luca's pass enabled Harry to advance unchecked into space and he unleashed an excellent slapshot into the bottom right hand corner of the net. Shortly after this second goal. Letchworth conceded their 10th team foul but the direct was missed by Michael Carter as the Letchworth goalkeeper made a fine save. Not to be denied, though, Michael Carter scored Peterborough's third goal as he cleverly lifted his shot, one handed, over the advancing Letchworth goalie. Letchworth 0 Peterborough 3

Half Time:- Letchworth 0 Peterborough 3

Within a couple of minutes following half time. Peterborough had increased their lead with a penalty which was smashed home by Harry Hillam.

Letchworth 0 Peterborough 4

Things certainly started to liven up after Peterborough's fourth goal. Straight from the restart, Ollie Marshall scored to make the score 1 - 4. That goal was followed by two penalties against Peterborough. Both were confidently smashed into the net by Nick Flint. Letchworth 3 Peterborough 4

Letchworth's tails were really up at this stage as they swarmed forward for the equaliser. It duly arrived as a blue card was shown against Peterborough and Nick Flint made no mistake with the resultant direct. Letchworth 4 Peterborough 4

Another blue card against Peterborough then followed but this time Arran Hall in the Peterborough goal made a fine save to deny Nick Flint his fourth goal of the match. Peterborough were able to calm things down for a short time by keeping possession of the ball and from one of their forays forward Michael Carter found Harry Hillam in acres of space and he confidently placed his shot into the net. Letchworth 4 Peterborough 5

Unbelievably, Peterborough switched off again and allowed Letchworth to hit straight back from the restart with a goal from Marco Giancola. Letchworth 5 Peterborough 5

Unfortunately for Peterborough this was not to be the end of their blue card flurry as they conceded another one. The look of total dismay on Arran Hall's face, in the Peterborough goal, when yet again a team mate conceded another blue card and a resultant direct shot for a tripping infringement was clear for all to see. However, he excelled again as he saved Nick Flint's flicked shot and Peterborough breathed a huge sigh of relief. This second important save proved to be just the spur that Peterborough needed to go and finish off this match. Luca Oakley burst past a couple of Letchworth defenders to get himself into a goal scoring position only for him to be upended as he was about to shoot. A penalty was awarded and Michael Carter duly smashed home his shot.

Letchworth 5 Peterborough 6

As in their previous Premier League game played against Manchester a couple of weeks ago, Peterborough were able to take advantage and score another direct as their opponents conceded their 15th team foul. Again, Michael Carter took the responsibility and cleverly flicked the ball over the Letchworth goalie into the net.

Letchworth 5 Peterborough 7

Final Score:- Letchworth 5 Peterborough 7

Summary of goal scorers:-Peterborough 4 Michael Carter 3 Harry Hillam

Letchworth 3 Nick Flint 1 Marco Giancola 1 Ollie Marshall

Arthur Corr's (Peterborough Coach) Man of the Match:- Michael Carter - 4 Goals and a masterful performance as Captain.

Well....what a match!!! This game had everything. If someone was present for the first time watching roller hockey then they would have been blown away by what they were witnessing, particularly in the second half. They would have been glued to the perimeter barrier, with no time for a toilet break, as they would definitely have missed frantic action from two teams fully committed to winning this match. To any roller hockey "defending connoisseurs" watching this match they would have been dismayed at some of the defending naivety on display but what a spectacle it provided to the large group of noisy spectators that were treated a pulsating, exciting match.

Full marks to Letchworth for taking the initiative handed to them by Peterborough's mistakes during the second half. The noise level in the hall grew louder and louder as Letchworth fought back to draw level at 4-4 and then 5-5. From a purely statistical standpoint and to illustrate the contrast in goalscoring during this match, Peterborough won the first half 3-0 but Letchworth won the second half 5-4.

From a Peterborough point of view, when they were 4-0 up early in the second half they then proceeded to commit "hari-kari" and hand the momentum over to Letchworth who took full advantage. Peterborough must learn to manage the game through to conclusion when holding a large goal advantage in a match.

Peterborough can be pleased with their Premier League Phase 1 away from home performances as they had 5 matches and won them all.

It must have been a difficult game for the two referees to officiate at. As it turned out, 26 team fouls (18 against Letchworth and 8 against Peterborough) together with 3 blue cards were issued in the game but it was by no means a dirty game at all. In fact, both referees almost looked apologetic, with their body language, when issuing the blue cards declaring "what else do you expect me to do"?







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