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Boys' Hockey Notes



Boys' First XI. Hockey Team.

A fresh start had to be made this term to select and train the "Ganges" hockey team. Longe (C) was the only survivor of the Easter term side, and he had to go in November.

Games during the first three weeks of the term therefore consisted entirely of trials and from them a "Probables" and "Possibles" selection was made.

The first match of the season, against Y.M.C.A. 2nd XI., also playing their first game, resulted in a win for "Ganges," 5-3. Next was fixture with Chafford School, which although only consisting of 35 boys, gave us a good thrashing 6-2. A Sunday game against Holbrook Staff Club resulted in a win for them 2-0. This was a most amusing and delightful game. When they scored their first goal there were scenes of intense jubilation and it was discovered that this was the first goal they had scored for eighteen months.

A rather easy game against Langham Oaks, which we won 5-1, brought us to the "St. Vincent" match on November 3rd.

Owing to the sparsity of outside fixtures it was not possible to give very much match play to the team before this contest, but by playing the Royal Marines, the Miscellaneous B, and the Chief Petty Officers' teams, who very kindly turned out for a game, it was possible to give the team some hard practice.

The "St. Vincent" match was most successful for us. Captained by Longe (C), the team played very well and showed good stickwork. The score was 8-0 in our favour, 5 goals being scored by Longe, 2 by Lambert and 1 by Morrison. The team was Watling (B); Neville (D), Packman (C); Thomas (G), Tedham (D), McGeown (Bw); Samyint (H), Longe (C), Morrison (H), Lambert (Bw), White (Bw).

Drafting now removed Longe and Neville from the Establishment. They will both be missed by the team, Longe at inside right for his excellent stickwork and flicking and his first time shots when in the circle, and Neville at back for his sure stickwork in stopping the ball and then giving it a really hard hit.

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Inter-Divisional Boxing Championships

Winter, 1951

Once more the Gymnasium gave pride of place to one of the term's major sporting activities—the Inter-Divisional Boxing Championships. As each occasion demands, the scene changes from one setting to another in quick succession, namely, Ballroom Dancing, Highland Dancing, to Cinema or Concert Hall, thence to Divine Service on Sundays, and so back to a Gymnasium in a continuing cycle of happenings in "Ganges" life.

This is the first occasion that Senior and Junior competitions have been conducted, and this entailed two teams of ten competitors from each Division, one competitor of each weight in each section to be selected and trained. A most satisfactory organisation from a fitness and dividing point of view, and also more talent was seen by the selectors who will have to prepare a team for the Navy-Championships.

Numbers two and three gymnasias were used for the preliminary and semi-final bouts. In these stages it is difficult to single out the few from the many who gave of their best for the honour of their Division. It took two weeks of afternoon boxing to complete the one hundred and six bouts, which gave interesting sports periods to boys who would not otherwise have been employed.

No. 1 Gymnasium was filled to capacity on Tuesday at 1645 and 2000, when the Captain, Officers, Ship's Company and Boys under training and a number of civilian boxing enthusiasts assembled to witness the final bouts of the Senior and Junior Boxing Championships. In the first session, Winner and Runner-up Plaques were presented by the Captain (J. F. Whitfeld) and in the second session by Rear Admiral C. O. Alexander, who also presented Championship Belt to Hawke Division, Senior Winners, and the Boxing Statuette to Blake Division, Junior Winners, and four "Good Loser's" prizes to worthy contestants in the preliminary stages at the end of the evening's programme.

In making the presentations, the Admiral recalled the command of H.M.S. "Ganges" fifteen years ago, when their present Captain was his Training Officer, and expressed his pleasure to be asked to come to witness the boxing and present the prizes.

In congratulating the boxers, the Admiral said that he was satisfied that the standard of good, clean boxing had been fully maintained. The Final Points in the Competitions were:—

SENIOR.			JUNIOR.		
Hawke	...	40	Blake	...	37
Drake	...	29	Rodney	...	29
Anson	...	28	Hawke	...	28
Collingwood and Grenville	24		Drake	...	25
Rodney	...	21	Anson	...	23
Blake	...	19	Grenville	...	22
Benbow	...	17	Collingwood	...	20
			Benbow	...	15

DETAILS OF BOUTS.

SENIOR.

MOSQUITO. Lynn (D) beat Nayers (G).

In a contest with plenty of action but not a lot of boxing skill.

FLY. Smith (C) beat Smallbone (A).

Smallbone, the better in the first round, but Smith the more skilful boxer, went on to win a good bout.



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BANTAM. Benny (H) beat Bridger (G).

Plenty of action but very little boxing skill.

FEATHER. Thomas (B) beat Lane (R).

Thomas (Suffolk Boy Champion and "Ganges" team last season) proved his superiority over Lane, the referee stopping the bout in the 3rd round, Lane proved a plucky loser.

LIGHT. Samyint (H) beat Perry (A).

Samyint, a clever well taught boxer, was given a close verdict over a tough but less skilful opponent.

WELTER. Rutter (H) beat Stewart (G).

Rutter was on top in every round and won by a good margin.

LIGHT WELTER. Baker (A) beat Humphries (Bw).

Baker won by better boxing craft in a narrow margin decision.

LIGHT MIDDLE. Binch (D) beat Loban (H).

The best bout of the evening between two well taught and fit boxers, both boxers taking and giving hard punches. The decision was close, the referee congratulating both boxers on a good performance.

MIDDLE. Jackson (H) beat Dodsworth (B).

Jackson was awarded the decision against his man at the beginning of the second round. Dodsworth who had received punishment in the first round, was unable to continue against further onslaught from the aggressive punches of Jackson. The referee stopped the bout within a few seconds of the second round.

LIGHT HEAVY. Mott (D) beat Thompson (C).

Mott (I.S.B.A. Boy Champion and Suffolk winner last season) forced home his experience and fitness against Thomas, who is to be congratulated on a splendid effort against superior experience. Thompson gave of his best and fought back with courage showing grit and guts. Well done, Thompson, you were up against big odds.

JUNIOR.

MOSQUITO. Doyale (H) beat Spence (A).

A good bout between two small boys with plenty of action but not much boxing ability.

FLY. Jones (C) beat Tubby (H).

Jones showed the more aggressiveness throughout and, though they lacked skill as boxers, plenty of action and courage was displayed.

BANTAM. Miles (B) beat Conies (D).

Miles, much the better boxer, was given a good bout by his opponent, who showed a willingness to have a "go" and mix it.

FEATHER. Smith (R) beat Tunnock (A).

An uninteresting bout with very little action or skill from either boy.

LIGHT. Jackson (R) beat Davis (H).

Jackson was the better boxer and more willing to be aggressive and so proved the winner with some to spare.

LIGHT WELTER. Beddall (B) beat Cordon (G).

The bout was stopped in the first round, Beddall proving the more experienced boxer.

WELTER. Wallace (H) beat Pearson (B).

Wallace knocked out Pearson in the first round.

LIGHT MIDDLE. Lane (A) beat Meagar (B).

An even bout, Lane producing a better last round to receive the verdict.



Player's Please



MIDDLE. Wilson (B) beat Hammond (R).

A good bout between two upstanding boxers, Wilson, showing the better craftsmanship, knocked out Hammond in the third round.

LIGHT HEAVY. Newall (D) v. Inches (B). Inches received a walk-over, Newall sick.

SPECIAL BOUTS.

LIGHT. Breward (Bw) beat Gaston (D).

In a grand all-out action bout, the loser was the more polished boxer, but Breward, with more aggression, continued to go after his opponent, which tipped the points in his favour.

Fn. Aphorpe (Bw) beat Logan (H).

There was only a narrow margin between two clever and well coached boxers.

WELTER. Young (R) beat Farrow (A). Young (Suffolk Boy Champion) was much the more aggressive and ruthless of two well taught boxers. Experience and fitness was on the side of Young.

LIGHT. Sullivan (C) beat Bird (C).

A bout between two experienced and clever boxers, able to give and take all the hard punches which each produced. Sullivan won by a small margin.

So ended the Inter-Divisional Championships for 1951, we look forward to the selection of the "Ganges" team to do battle against our sister training establishments in the New Year with every confidence that a creditable showing will be made from the talent displayed during the past three weeks.

Training will be hard and tedious, but your task will prove easier in the ring by being fit to give and take punches for three rounds.

A fit boxer in the ring is a person to be admired, but the unfit, no matter how scientific he may be is an appalling spectacle.

Good luck to all the probables. If top of your weight before leave the more Xmas Fare you digest the harder the training on your return.

Satan, or the Hound of "Ganges"

Who stole the meat out of the pie before it went into the oven? Who dug up the bulbs in the Gunnery School, set with such loving care by gunnery instructors with fierce voices but hearts of gold? Who sniffed at the trousers of a Danish naval attache one Sunday divisions? Who knows every galley and kip in "Ganges?" Whose delight is the disembowelling of cricket and hockey balls, the chewing of tent pegs and the unlaying of gash rope? Who uses the Captain's personal office as his own private gangway, and once dragged into it a much mangled half sheep's head, there to complete its disintegration in greater warmth and comfort? Who, like Selina, lured into an alien element in hopes of gold(fish), was rescued cowed and dripping from the Wardroom lily pond? Who travels free on the Harwich-Shotley steamboat and has a bed reserved for him in the Pier Sentry's Hut? Who left his footprints preserved in concrete for all "Ganges" posterity where the "Ganges" figurehead used to stand? Who is suspected of being an expectant father? and finally, who is going to feed him when he is drafted away from "Ganges" galleys, and who is going to foot the bills when he is outside the tolerant orbit of Shotley?

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