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**Subject:** Latest newsletter - Sussex Men's Open League - 21 Oct 2017  
**Date:** 21 October 2017 at 21:55  
**To:**



Dear All

Well where do I start

1 The weather. Hopefully Storm Brian treated you all reasonably well. Certainly he lived up to the forecast. For me - with extended sunny spells between heavy showers all supported by strong winds - some of which took the breath away. However, overall not really a bad day to watch or umpire all r part of 5 games.

2 Strictly - I can see the dancing taking over this Newsletter as most responses each week seem to be various views and queries on the the performances. I have been asked for

2.1 Who is my favourite performer of all time - either John Sergeant or Ann Widdicombe - both certainly memorable.

2.2 Who do I think is going out this week - Brian and Simon for dance-off with Simon to depart. But, of course, at this stage of the series it is very much a popularity contest - so who knows who could fall foul of the viewers.

2.3 Who is going to win - Tis is a hard one to judge. Ashton and Alexander Burke are my front runners - loved Ashton's dance tonight and the Troll dance they did, and he and partner certainly have great rapport. Alexander has been best dancer of all - so far so very much a contender, but we all know how early front runners fall by the wayside as others develop. I also like Susan -a little ball of delight, Find Debbie Daniels very elegant, Jonnie Peacock can certainly bounce on his blade, and now Gemma Atkinson has demonstrated a penchant for ballroom. I know one of my South League Secretaries has something of a passion for Gemma - not sure why but he may know something the rest of us do not.

Anyway enough Strictly for now.

3 **Results** - As I write I have all the results..

All division 1 results in very early - much appreciated. I have had some fellow county league colleagues point out that they still either call or are called by their divisional captains, and have the results in by 6pm. Obviously he has his captains much better controlled than I. However, as I am usually still on a hockey field at 6pm and not getting home until 1830 - such prompt results are impossible. However, by the time I sit down for Strictly - the results are nearly all in place and I am pleased by this.

There was one result where there was a small discrepancy between the teams in their view of the final score (just the odd goal). This does not happen often, but where it does, I have to wait until we can see the Match sheet and the score agreed by the umpires before I can up-date. I hope this is Ok for all as a procedure.

4 Divisional One Scorers - Many thanks to Middleton, Saxons, Brighton 3s and 4s for getting the scorers to me so promptly. Please - Hailsham, Crowborough, Eastbourne 2, Mid Sussex 2, Penguin 1, - keep up the good record and get the rest to me as soon as possible. It is always much appreciated.

5 Well 4 (or 5 weeks) into the season, it is probably time for me to jinx a few teams by saying how well they are doing to-date. Obviously you can see the full tables and results on the South league website, Fixtureslive and via the Sussex Hockey Association website, so just some highlights.

Division 1 2 teams still with 100% wins Penguin 1s and Hailsham 1s; interesting to see Brighton 4 and Mid Sussex 2s ahead of their respective higher XIs.

Division 2 Lewes 2 also a great start to the season with 4 win out of 4. Southwick 2s and Horsham 4s still to get a point, I am sure that will happen soon.

Division 3 Lewes 4s 5 wins out of 5 and some very positive remarks from their oppositions. Penguin 2 have had a poor start to the season, with player numbers being a problem. Apparently the goalkeeper and another player forgot their game today resulting in a 14 - 0 scoreline. No one likes to see that kind of result - so hopefully better times ahead.

Division 4 Two teams with 100% win records, but neither at the top of the table, due the the difficulties with reduced number of teams and so the high number of spare weekends. However, Saxons 4 (3 out of 3) and Horsham 5s (2 out of 2) doing well, while Lewes 5s lead the way in the division.

Well worth a look at the full tables, if you get a moment.

Top scorers in Division 1 at present.

1	Steve Pullen	Middleton 1	6
2	Richard Cook	Brighton & Hove 4	5
	George Cyster	Hailsham 1	5
	Steven Lockwood	Penguin 1	5
3	Harry Beard	Horsham 3	3
	James Bunday	South Saxons 2	3
	Mike Dovey	Mid-Sussex 2	3
	Chris Hayes	Hailsham 1	3
	Freddie Knott	East Grinstead 3	3
	Jamie Laker	Horsham 3	3
	Tom Tyers	Mid-Sussex 1	3

However, still some scorers to be sent in as you will have seen above.

Anyway time to go for a shower and so time to stop writing for another Saturday - please keep comments and up-dates flowing.

Oh - I forgot just in case anyone was wondering - I have not had any wine tonight, waiting until I come down to watch the new BBC drama - Gunpowder.

Best to al

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