

MATCHDAY PROGRAME

WEEK 12 - 3/4 FEBRUARY 2024

SATURDAY 3 FEBRUARY 2024

EH Men's Conference West



CRHC Men's 1s v Cheltenham 1s PB 18:00 Clifton College Sports Ground







(Clifton Robinsons Hockey Club

CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME

Hello all and welcome along to another packed weekend of hockey for Clifton Robinsons Hockey Club, the #BlueArmy.

With Christmas and New Year now firmly in the rear view mirror it has been all systems go for many of our teams since early January, slogging it out through the cold and rain at training and matches. Although there are still a number of matches yet to go, and still a lot to play for, there are a number of sides who are very much on the promotion march across the club, including the Women's 2s, 3s & 5s, as well as the Men's 1s, 4s, 5s and 7s.

It is also a real #SuperSaturday this week, with both the Men's 2s and Men's 1s in action against local rivals Firebrands and Cheltenham respectively. On that note, I'd like to extend a very warm welcome to the players, coaches and fans of Cheltenham, who make the short trip down the M5 to enjoy a Saturday night under the lights at Clifton College. After a tight encounter earlier in the season, which saw this weekend's visitors take all 3 points, it is sure to be an exciting spectacle for this 6pm push back (please arrive from 5.15 onwards).

I'd also like to take this opportunity to thank Cockburns Port, an ongoing sponsor of the Men's 1s Man of the Match for the past couple of seasons. Their continued support is gratefully appreciated, and we look forward to maintaining our partnership over coming seasons.

Have a great weekend of hockey all. Go well.

- Andy 'Boy' Hughes, Men's Chair, Clifton Robinsons HC





CLUB OVERVIEW

Welcome back after an extended Christmas break for some - while others have been in almost constant action.

Both M1s and M2s were in the second round of their respective National Cup competitions. While the M1 hosted high-flying Old Georgians and lost out on penalties (see the great report later in this programme), the M2 progressed to the 3rd round courtesy of a 3-2 win over local opposition Bristol & West. For the second year in a row, an away tie to Leek HC awaits. Here's hoping it ends better than last year!

Our Masters' sides have been coping well in their cups too, with a cracking turnout for a double header a few Sundays ago. Both teams progressed courtesy of comfortable wins. The WO35 put Oxford Hawks to the sword with a huge 5-0 victory, while the MO40 beat ISCA 2-1 in a professional performance. As ever, Pete Smith was on hand to capture the best of the action - check his website for the best action shots! Our MO50 also beat the same opposition in a shoot out, after a chaotic last 5 minutes where both sides traded goals. One step closer to finals weekend... Book that bus Longer!

We had plenty of indoor action to speak of too - read about that further on!

On a social front, we are pleased to finalise the date for End of Season Dinner. It will be hosted at Gloucestershire County Cricket Club (as last year!) on Friday 19 April. I'm already excited! Captains shall be in touch regarding orders soon. Other dates for your diary are 10th February and 16th March - stay tuned to social media for updates.

Now to the pitch! The M1 look in a strong position sitting in 3rd, 4 points off the top. With both the top 2 to play in the next month, we should know what sort of a ride we are in for. The side traditionally finish strong - can we close that gap and look upwards to Div 1? Blue Army!

SPONSORSHIP PACKAGES

Clifton Robinsons Hockey Club can offer a range of packages and perks to any interested parties!

PACKAGES

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- Chairmans Invitational Day and Match Day Hospitality
- End of Season Dinner Invitation
- Community Day Exposure
- Pitch side Banner / Advertisement
- Professional photography and live streaming
- Range of costs to suit all!

*Not all packages include all perks. Please request a brochure for package breakdowns.

Interested?

Contact our Sponsorship Team today to enquire about the endless possibilities available by partnering with Clifton Robinsons Hockey Club and receive our Full Sponsorship Brochure.

Email: Sponsorship@cliftonrobinsonshockey.co.uk







MEN'S 1s v CHELTENHAM 1s

EH Men's West Conference | 3/2/2024 18:00 PB | Clifton College Sports Ground



STAFF

D. HACKER - HEAD COACH

T. COLE - HEAD COACH

R. NAUGHALTY - MANAGER

N. FRIEND - MANAGER



LAST TIME OUT: CRHC 2 - 2 OLD GEORGIANS

On a crisp winter morning, hundreds of expected fans made the journey to Clifton College, to breathe in the magic of the cup – to cheer on David, in his epic dual with Goliath – to dare to dream that on this day the underdog really could rise up and overcome the odds and deliver a moment to remember. Alas.

Coach Hacker addressed the team in typical Churchillian style, and boy did the troops respond – two quick goals had the crowd enraptured. At the end of the first quarter the dream was taking shape, becoming something real, something tangible. Old Georgian's were stunned – shell-shocked, perhaps. There was talk that the bookies were paying out on a Robbies win. The ultras were confirming their Megabus tickets for the cup final. The players, too, were full of hope. In homage to Obama's 2008 campaign, they, too, were internalising those fateful three words – 'Yes, We Can'. In the eyes of the players, Coach Hacker had morphed into Ted Lasso – Hope rang eternal.

And perhaps, when historians cast their eyes back on that fateful day, it will be this sense of hope, this euphoric belief that victory was in sight at the end of the first quarter, where they will pontificate that the seeds of defeat were truly sown. Hubris. 2-0 – a dangerous scoreline.

The goals of Salmon and Stevens (S) were swiftly, brutally, relentlessly cancelled out by the OGs. A flurry of cards descended in Q3 and Q4, before the final whistle ushered in the ultimate dual – the penalty shuffle. Some were scored. Some, sadly, were missed. Some had a plan. Some had studied Of Mice and Men as a GCSE set-text. At the end of the gladiatorial opening salvos, sudden death was required. Loughrey, golden locks flowing in the gentle breeze, stepped forward – the crowd hushed – the wind ceased – the keeper kept. And here endeth the reading – OGs progressed. The dream was over. And yet, and yet – for those lucky few who were there that day, the magic of the cup had sprinkled some of its dust on a small corner of Failand's fields, and given one and all a sporting contest that will live long in the memory.

MEN'S CONFERENCE WEST

END OF MATCH WEEK 10

POS	CLUB	PL	GD	Pts
1	UNI OF BRISTOL 1	10	14	22
2	OXFORD HAWKS 1	10	8	19
3	CLIFTON ROBINSONS 1	10	111	18
4	ISCA 1	10	9	17
5	CHICHESTER 1	10	4	14
6	UNI OF EXETER 2	10	0	13
7	ASHMOOR 1	10	-6	13
8	FAREHAM 1	10	-13	13
9	CHELTENHAM 1	10	-8	10
10	PLYMOUTH MARJON 1	10	-19	5



ELSEWHERE IN THE CLUB - INDOOR SUCCESSES

While the freezing weather caused plenty of disruption in the outdoor, we had plenty of indoor success.

Our Ladies side competed in a tight National Division 2, following relegation last year. However, strong performances in a tight league led to a first placed finish meaning promotion immediately back into Division 1 for next season. A great success for a team made up of a mix of players from the 1s and 2s.

On the Men's side, the team missed out on promotion to National League after losing by a solitary goal in the West Finals to Bristol Uni, relegated last year. After being runners-up in a strong group, they comfortably won the semi final. The final looked a step too far at one stage, being 5-1 down just before half time. However a monumental Istanbul style comeback was nearly completed with goals flying in but it was too little too late. A comendable second place for the lads!

Finally, plenty of Juniors were in action but the standout team was the U18 girls. Having won the West Championships they faced teams from all over the country in the National Finals. Wakefield, Repton, Surbiton and Marlow were put to the sword, but the team unfortunately lost out to East Grinstead in the final. A great performance nonetheless and showed everyone what the best in the West can offer!







SPONSORS' SECTION

We are extremely grateful for all our sponsors who support us throughout the year.



Our principle kit provider for many years, Grays aim to provide and inspire every hockey player with innovative trusted products to improve their performance.



Our lead sponsor for our Ladies' 1s. Hillis & Porter provide a wide range of services whether you are looking to build, grow, protect or preserve your wealth. With over 80 years combined experience in financial services, Hillis and Porter is a family Practice. We take pride in helping you and your families plan for the future.



Cockburn's are our Men's 1s Man-of-the-Match sponsor.

Current M1 captain Scott
Davidson presented Man of the
Match from our last home
fixture to Luke Emmett from
Chichester HC.



27 JAN 2024

Ladies' 1 3 - 1 Birmingham Uni 1

Ladies' 2 3-2 Cheltenham 1

Ladies' 3 6-1 Bath Buccaneers 3

Shepton Mallet 1 6-2 Ladies' 4

Ladies' 5 4-1 Bristol 1

Avonmouth 1 1 - 6 Ladies' 6

Men's 2 4-1 University of Exeter 3

Men's 3 1-1 Penzance 1

Gwent 1 1 - 2 Men's 4

Men's 5 7 - 1 Men's 6

Bristol & West 5 1-1 Men's 7









E SAMES

SATURDAY 3 FEBRUARY 2024

13:00 M4 v Yate 1 - Coombe Dingle

14:00 M6 v Old Bristolians 3 - Badminton

14:30 W4 v Isca & Uni of Exeter 4 - The Lawns

15:30 M7 v Firebrands 5 - Badminton

16:00 W6 v BAC 2 - Redmaids School

18:00 M1 v Cheltenham 1 - Clifton College

SATURDAY 3 FEBRUARY 2024

10:15 W3 v Bristol & West Jaspers 1 - Mangotsfield

11:30 W5 v North Somerset Gryphons 2

12:30 M3 v Truro

13:30 W2 v Basingstoke 1

14:30 M5 v Old Bristolians 4 - Gordano School

15:30 M2 v Firebrands 1 - Firebrands HC









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KEEP UP-TO-DATE

FOLLOW US ON OUR SOCIALS!

Drop us a follow to stay updated on all things Clifton Robinsons Hockey Club!



@CliftonRobbies



) @cliftonrobbies



Clifton Robinsons Hockey Club

Our Social Media and Comms team have loads planned for the season to keep you up-to-date and entertained, and we know you won't want to miss it!





