

Kingston Diamonds Newsletter

Issue 13

November 2017

Diamonds Elite

Elites start the month with and away double-header, against Sheffield (4th Nov) and Solihull (5th Nov) before returning home to face the Bracknell Queen Bees on the 26th.

The Elites began November with a fixture against Sheffield, looking to steal another two points of their Yorkshire rivals. They got off to the perfect start as Hannah Worthington scored at 0.28 to give the Diamonds a 0-1 lead, with a great deflection off a Beth Scoon shot. Their lead was doubled at 8.55 as the Sheffield goalie made a mess of handling the puck and gifted it straight to Holly Cornford who buried it past the scrambling netminder. Sheffield pulled one back shortly afterwards as Elizabeth Saunders scored after a scramble in front of net and the scores stood at 1-2 after the first period.

Hannah Worthington got her second of the game at 21.37. Shannon Jones danced her way past several Sheffield players earning a 2 on 1, where she dished the puck to Hannah who just picked her spot and rifled it home for 1-3. The Shadows made it a one-goal game again, Rachel Butcher scoring at 27.17 for 2-3. Hannah Worthington continued her blistering pace and completed her hat-trick at 31.47 when a pass from Helen Emerson connected and she slotted home to extend the Diamonds lead once again. Sheffield were not going to give up and when given a powerplay, they made sure to capitalise, Judy Browne scoring at 34.41 for 3-4. The game continued to give either side chances, and as the period was drawing to a close Beth Scoon corralled the puck and skated with it down the wing, her initial shot was saved but she picked up the puck from behind the net and scored a neat wraparound goal to give the Diamonds a 3-5 lead going into the final period.

The third period led to further chances for both teams, but neither side could find another goal and the Diamonds killed off the game, taking home a big two points in the process. Hannah Worthington took a deserved 'Spirit of the Game' award for her excellent performance.

Final Score Sheffield 3-5 Kingston

The next day the Diamonds travelled to Solihull for a late game, playing their second fixture in as many days, to take on the Vixens. The Vixens were on the board early as Saffron Allen converted at 3.57 to give the home side the lead, but the Diamonds tied the game soon after with Shannon Jones scoring at 6.51 with an assist from Holly Cornford. Solihull retook the lead at 9.23; Saffron Allen was awarded a penalty shot and buried it to put her team ahead again. The goal-fest continued and the Vixens gave themselves some breathing room as Katie Henry scored for 3-1 at 12.01. Just 30 seconds later and the Diamonds closed the gap to one, with Hannah Worthington scoring at 12.33, Cornford and Jones both picking up assists on that goal.

The Diamonds fell-asleep in the second period and allowed the Vixens to storm away with the lead, scoring 4 unanswered goals at 23.27 (Paige Henry), 27.24 (Cloe Keijzer, powerplay goal), 37.56 (Katie Henry) and 39.35 (Katie Henry, hat-trick goal) for a 7-2 lead at the end of the second period.

The Diamonds started the final period strongly and Holly Cornford converted a pass from Shannon Jones for her third point of the night at 40.10. The come-back looked fierce as Beth Scoon scored just 2 minutes later to bring the scores to 7-4 at 42.06, but it proved too little, too late as the Vixens replied at 49.34 through Cloe Keijzer to finish the scoring. In another game littered with penalties the Diamonds couldn't find the edge and a poor middle stanza hurt them in the end. Kelly Dreschler picked up the 'Spirit of the Game' award for the Diamonds.

The Elites have a couple of weekends off before returning home to play the Bracknell Queen Bees on 26th November.

Final Score Solihull 8-4 Kingston

Into the final game of the month, the Elites were looking for a strong performance from a large roster against Bracknell. Both teams had chances in the opening period as the teams got a feel for how one-another were playing. Bracknell had the upper-hand on the shot count but both goalies stood tall and no pucks found the back of the net.

Into the second period the Diamonds got a little bit sloppy and struggled to create any offense, and then at 26.41 Bracknell opened the scoring with six players on the ice on a delayed penalty. The goal from Chrissy Newman coming from a tight angle shot with the goalie scrambling. Nothing more to report in the second period as both teams defended well.

With the game heading into the final period and the Diamonds wanted to get something from this game, but Bracknell played tight on defense and made it impossible for the home team to create anything, even on the powerplay.

It was to be special teams that came to fruition again for the away side, gaining themselves a 5 on 3 at the end of the end of the second period, which ran over as a 5 on 4 into the third period, the Queen Bees scored themselves a brace at 40.31, this time Katherine Gale scoring on a wraparound attempt.

Another close score between these teams, but the Diamonds must find a way to put pucks past this team in the future. Holly Steeples gained the 'Spirit of the Game' award having saved 53 of 55 shots faced.

Next up for the Elites is a long trip away to Guildford on 9th December.

Final Score Kingston 0-2 Bracknell

Diamonds Premier

The Premis have just one game this month, away at Milton Keynes on 18th November, in what will definitely be a tough fixture facing last season's playoff winners.

A trip down to MK for an evening face-off didn't start the way the Diamonds would have hoped. They were lacklustre in their fore-checking and sloppy in the D-zone, allowing Milton Keynes to open the scoring at 1.11 through Monica Petrosino. The Diamonds woke up a little after this and Kiana Tait tied the game with a fortuitous goal, sliding the puck from behind the goal line and into the net at 5.09. The Falcons ran away with the first period after this, Remington giving them the lead at 8.38, before Russell and Piotrowski extended the margin at 9.55 and 16.29. Some firm words were to be had during the break and a plan laid out as to how the Diamonds were going to find a way back into this game.

The plan came into action quickly and the Diamonds began to up their game, Dannie Newlove scored off a rebound at 25.44 to cut the deficit, and Reagan Downing shovelled one in on the powerplay at 39.53 assisted Cockerton to bring the game within one. It looked like the Diamonds may be about to pull off an awesome come back when they got an opportunity on the powerplay. It wasn't to be, however, as Piotrowski grabbed the puck and raced up the ice, scoring a short-handed goal to seal the victory for the home side.

An unlucky result in the end, after two very strong periods the Diamonds felt that they deserved at least a point, but as has been emphasized, they can't concede 4 goals in the first period and expect to win games.

Lessons will be learnt and it's on to the next one, a home game vs Swindon on 10th December in what will be a very tough matchup.

Final Score MK 5-3 Kingston

Upcoming Fixtures

09.12.17 – Elite vs Guildford @ Guildford

10.12.17 – Premier vs Swindon @Home

17.12.17 – Premier vs Swindon @ Swindon



**Kingston Diamonds
Female Ice Hockey**



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Diamonds U16s

The U16s also only have one fixture this month, as they face new girls, Nottingham on 12th November.

The first glimpses of this season have been extremely promising, and the U16s want to continue their excellent start to the year. Knowing they need points from as many games as they can be in with a chance of silverware. Both teams got off to a slow start, perhaps the awe of playing in the 10,000 seat Motorpoint Arena was having an effect, but it was the Diamonds who broke the deadlock. New signing, Inez Brannon scored at 7.24 off a pass from Dannie Newlove. Ishbel Wright doubled the away sides lead just 15 seconds later, on 7.39, with assists going to April Ramsey and Ketz Robinson. Nottingham pulled one back at 9.34 as their Captain, Chamonix Jackson converted a pass from Jessica Parsons to make it 1-2. Into the second period and the Diamonds really tuned up the heat, Inez Brannon grabbing her second, on the powerplay at 18.40 before April Ramsey scored short-handed at 19.35 to give the Diamonds a 3 goal cushion. Brannon completed her hat-trick at 26.25, assisted Robinson and they went into the third period leading 1-5. Just 2 minutes into the third period and Brannon was on the board once again, scoring her fourth of the game at 32.25 on the powerplay assisted Martha Cornell. Nottingham were struggling to get anything together and a short-bench wasn't helping their case.

Dannie Newlove finished off the scoring with a short-handed goal at 34.42.

Inez Brannon picked up a well-earned 'Spirit of the Game' award, finishing the game with 6 points (4+2), and the Diamonds came home happy, having won both of their first 2 games in this new season.

The U16s have a long lay-off now before their next game, not facing-off again until January 14th when they play away at Sheffield.

Final Score Nottingham 1-7 Kingston

International Honours

Three Diamonds players were chosen to represent Great Britain U18 Women in the 'Four Nations' Tournament in Granada this November.

Sophie Campbell, Emily Johnson and Kiana Tait were all chosen in the final roster that travelled to Granada.

The team flew out on the 9th November, with the tournament starting on the 10th, and spanning the weekend, rounding up on the 12th November.

The girls faced Hungary in their first match, on Friday, eventually losing out 4-1, despite scoring the opening goal. On the Saturday, GB played a strong Poland side, ultimately falling down 5-0.

On the final day of the tournament, while Hungary and Poland went head-to-head for the gold medal, GB faced host-nation Spain, with both teams looking for their first win. In a close game, requiring overtime and penalty-shots to decide a winner, it was the Spanish who came away victorious with a 2-1 win.