

Kingston Diamonds Newsletter

Issue 4

December 2016

Diamonds Elite

December was another quiet month for the Diamonds. As our Prems have a long break until their next game the Elites were our only senior team to play, taking on the Guildford Lightning on the 3rd December.

December has been a quiet month for the Diamonds with only two games, the Elite Team faced Guildford on home ice at the start of the month, in the first of 4 meetings this season.

As usual with games between the two teams there is not much love lost, and it was quite a chippy affair from the start. Building on a good result in Sheffield the Diamonds came out determined to put their mark on the game. With both teams exchanging 11 shots on each other's net, it was the netminders who kept the game tight during the first period. The Diamonds looked lively and with 50 seconds to go in the period, Shannon Jones broke the deadlock with an unassisted goal.

The 2nd period started with the Diamonds looking the stronger of the teams, and an excellent stretch pass from Beth Scoon sent Jones on a breakaway and again she made no mistake, pulling a lovely move and scoring her second of the night. For once the Diamonds were staying out of the penalty box and allowing the Lightning to take the penalties. A couple of power plays in the 2nd couldn't be capitalised on and the period ended 2-0.

Guildford are a team who don't know when they are beaten, and once again they piled on the pressure in the 3rd period and with 12 minutes to go they halved the score. With time running out it looked like the Diamonds had done enough to hold on to both points, but once again the Lightning struck to equalise the game, this time with just 2 minutes remaining. This led to an edgy end to the game as both teams looked for a winner, and the game ended 4 on 4 after a couple of penalties, following some big body checks. Neither team could steal another goal in the dying moments and both teams took one point from the game. Probably a fair result but its always frustrating to lose a point after being in control for the first two periods. I'm sure the next meeting will be equally as tight.

The girls will have a couple of well-earned weeks off to enjoy Christmas and the New Year before they are back in action on the 21st January away at Bracknell.

Final Score Kingston 2-2 Guildford

Diamonds do the 'Santa Run'

A number of the Diamonds took part in a 'Santa Fun Run' on the 11th December.

The run was organised by long time hockey fan Bernard Nuttall and was in aid of Overton House, a care home in Cottingham specialising in caring for patients with dementia. Several of the Diamonds took part in the run as 'Diamond Elves', raising the profile of the club as well as helping to support Bernard and Overton House. Well done girls, you're a credit to the club! (Mike, you looked wonderful in your elf uniform!)



International Honours

Two more girls are added to the long list of Diamonds to represent Great Britain.

A huge congratulations is in order for Caren Callaghan who has been chosen to represent GB Junior Women's in the 2017 FIRS World Championships in China. Caren is new to the Diamonds and to playing ice hockey this season but has been playing roller hockey for 5 years. A big well done also to Kiana Tait who will be heading to Poland to play for GB U18 Women's in the upcoming world championships.

The Diamonds are extremely proud of the girls and we wish them both the very best of luck!



Diamonds U16s

The U16s wrapped up the Diamonds action for 2016 with a home game against Scotland.

With the two teams having already met up in Scotland in October with a fine 6-2 win for the Diamonds, this looked like our U16s would get back to the top of the League. The Diamonds came out flying from the drop of the puck, with several good chances in the first shift. After a quick line change the pressure on the Scotland net showed as Ketziah Robinson opened the scoring at 1:29, assisted by Caren Callaghan. The Scottish bench then got called for too-many players on the ice, but the power play didn't last long, as the usual procession of Diamonds players were called for some very soft penalties, (I'm sure the refs think we are playing tiddly winks and not hockey) at least we are getting lots of practice at penalty killing.

The Scottish net was under constant attack during the 2nd period, but none of the 15 shots managed to cross the line, although one did look like it was destined for the twine, but somehow Ketz Robinson managed to slice her shot just wide.

The 3rd period was by far the best display of hockey from the U16s this season, great passing and continual shots on the net finally paid off, as Ishbel Wright (assist Abi McCourt) and Caren Callaghan (assisted Kiana Tait) scored in the space of 50 seconds to kill off any hopes of a Scotland come back. The team from North of the border did manage to find the net in the last five minutes, but it was too little too late. Abi McCourt picked up the Diamonds Spirit of the Game award with an assist in her first game as a Diamond! A great end to 2016 for the club, and hopefully this will give us something to build on for 2017. The U16s kick off 2017 for the club with another game vs Scotland, this time making the trip to Dumfries on the 16th January.

Final Score Kingston 3-1 Scotland

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from the Kingston Diamonds!



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**Kingston Diamonds
Female Ice Hockey Club**

Upcoming Fixtures

14.01.17 – U16s vs Solway @ Dumfries
21.01.17 – Elites vs Bracknell @ Bracknell