

Wavell Invitation Netball League – 2008/2009

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Team A

2008/09/08 vs Trafalgar

Heath Hoops A 22 – 29 Trafalgar

Report by Morag:

A much more organised Trafalgar team than last season dominated the first half and made the score line seem almost out of touch for Hoops at the half way point. However a dogged and determined Team A dug in and fought hard to bring the score line back to within 8 goals going into the last quarter.

Some last quarter changes and some fresh legs brought Hoops even closer to a win as the goals began to come and Hoops came within 5 of taking the lead. However the earlier dominance of Traf proved too much in the end for Hoops.

2008/09/22 vs Rushmoor C

Heath Hoops A 50 – 29 Rushmoor C

Report by Morag:

Fantastic teamwork from Team A saw them earn their first win (50 - 29) of the season against much younger opposition. It was brilliant to see work from the training ground in action on court. Defending was first class from GK, GD and WD and sterling teamwork from C, GA and WA made it difficult for Rushmoor to keep up with. GS and GA were both on fire as the goals kept coming.

A more organised and match fit Team A and a well deserved win.

2008/10/06 vs Spitfires 7

Heath Hoops A 32 – 29 Spitfires 7

Report by Morag:

A closely fought match between two very determined sides made this a nail biting last quarter for the sideline to watch!!

After winning the first quarter, Hoops were 5 goals down at the half way point and team talk by Captain Angela pumped some much needed determination back into the team. With the teams only 2 goals apart going into the last quarter, and the score line remaining neck and neck throughout, Hoops finally pulled away in the last few minutes to a well deserved victory 32 - 29.

A fantastic match both to watch and play in. Well done all the girls from both teams.

2008/11/03 vs Waverley C

Heath Hoops A 35 - 21 Waverley C

Report by Morag:

Despite a months break due to inclement weather conditions, Team A came out looking very much an in form team. The team got off to one of the most disciplined first quarters of their history (long gone are the ghosts of a rubbish first quarter) and went from strength to strength throughout the game. Double and sometimes treble marking of the opposition's shooters by GD, WD and C kept the goal tally of Waverley C as limited as possible to good effect. Some excellent driving into space by Hoops attackers kept GA/GS well fed for shots on Hoops goal. Some fantastic interceptions also made this an exciting game to play in with some friendly Waverley opposition. Special mention to GD who had a fantastic game despite playing out of her normal position. A well deserved win.

2008/11/17 vs Wstore

Heath Hoops A 20 – 18 WStore

Report by Morag:

A tight game all the way through that came down to the wire in the last quarter. The game could easily have gone either way. Hoops found themselves tightly marked by an unexpectedly tricky opposition, in every area of the court and had difficulty getting free to receive the ball. The shooters had a very tough game in the circle, tightly marked and unable to play their normal game. The hoop seemed to evade both sides on the night and resulted in a low scoring match. Hoops started slowly, which was something we hadn't seen in the past few games. It was as if something was missing and that Hoops couldn't get out of first gear. However, Hoops managed to pull ahead by 4 or 5 goals in the second quarter, but managed to give it all back to WStore who fought a hard match to stay in contention. Hoops gained control again in the third quarter and went into the last quarter 16 13 up. The last quarter was a nailbiter with Hoops literally hanging on for the win. Dogged determination won through in the end. But please - let's have old Hoops back for the next game on 1st December against Doodlebugs B!!!

2008/12/01 vs Doodlebugs B

Heath Hoops 53 – 34 Doodlebugs B

Report by Morag:

A fantastic display of teamwork and togetherness from Heath Hoops, which proved to the team that their poor performance last time was just a blip. Some GREAT training ground play tonight and some fantastic holding space in the goal circle by GS and brilliantly timed runs by all the team. For the majority of the game, Hoops were on fire and reading each others minds. Some double marking by WD of a fast and tricky Doodlebugs GA proved useful and there were some great interceptions and defending in the circle by GK and GD. C, WA and GA played an awesome attack with some well timed lobs into the circle and also using defence as needed to slow the game and build up play. Some excellent shooting saw Hoops come back from a few goals down in the first quarter, to pull ahead by about 10 goals by half time. Hoops kept their cool and kept the goal difference roughly the same by the end of the 3rd quarter and stormed home to a great victory in the final attack. A fantastic game girls putting Heath Hoops A at least second in the Div 7 table (depending on the scores of the other games). WELL DONE!

2008/12/08 vs Hornets

Heath Hoops 41 – 35 Hornets

Report by Debbie:

Although the score indicates a fairly tight match, we lead from the first quarter and maintained a good lead throughout. Special mention must be made of our shooters tonight, who were on fire. All credit to Hornets for fighting right to the end.

I think congratulations must go to the team for the way we approached our first season in the seventh division. Although some games were tighter than expected, we have faced some really tough opposition. Good results, find us positioned second on the league table with an interesting second round to start in January 2009.

2009/01/19 vs Rushmoor C

Team A 45 - 26 Rushmoor C

Report by Morag:

Hoops got off to a great start in the first quarter and pulled away 7 - 1 in the first few minutes. However Rushmoor settled down and pulled the scoreline back to within a few goals by the end of the first quarter as Hoops began to rush around, lose shape and panic a bit. A good chat at the end of the first quarter by the captain and the sideline, saw Hoops settle back down into their own style of play with some better passing and driving for the ball. By half time, Hoops were beginning to pull away. The 3rd quarter saw Rushmoor change most of their team around and they brought on many fresh, young legs. However this served Hoops well, as the team were now settled into play and the new Rushmoor configuration took some time to settle down. Going into the last quarter, Hoops were 10 goals ahead.

The Hoops shooters were hardly missing anything all evening and some good balls into the circle and dogged determination saw Hoops really pull away to finish 45 - 26. This was a fantastic show of teamwork this evening in an attacking combination not often played. Hoops defence put lots of pressure on Rushmoor attack to great effect and Hoops centre court began reading each other better as the game developed. A great win girls which has settled us back into play for the second half of the season.

Next game is against Spitfires 7 at 8.30pm.

2009/02/16 vs Hornets

Hornets conceded match

2009/03/02 vs Waverley C

Heath Hoops A 57 - 22 Waverley C

Report by Morag:

Hoops A got off to a flying start against the opposition and had a well controlled first quarter coming out 19 5 in front. The second quarter was also a good display of teamwork with Hoops A coming out 31 10 in front at half time. Hoops A changed GK position at the half way point but kept the rest of the team the same. Waverley C seemed to take much more control of the game at the beginning of the third quarter until Hoops A regained their first half composure. The goals kept coming for Hoops A and they began to believe that a goal per minute might actually be on when the third quarter ended 43 17. Hoops A played well throughout and the last quarter was no exception, alas only just missing out on the goal per minute at 57!!

WELL DONE GIRLS.

2009/03/16 vs WStore

Heath Hoops A 29 - 24 WStore

Report by Morag:

An interesting game that saw Hoops lead most of the way, but was a close run thing all the way through and could have gone either way. Hoops were all at sea during the first half and didn't seem to be able to create space and move for the ball. WStore marked all Hoops players very closely making it difficult for Hoops to play their own game. It's been a few games since Hoops played their old headless chicken routine and all the girls felt disheartened and frustrated with themselves at half time, knowing they could play much better. Finally by the last quarter, Hoops sorted themselves out more and we saw glimpses of a more Hoops-esk team performance. Hoops managed to pull away by a few goals half way through the final 15mins and eventually came out on top. A tough game mentally and physically, but a win is a win! Well done girls - a great game for character building!!

Next league match is against Trafalgar on March 23rd.

Team B

2008/09/08 vs Lilac Ladies

Heath Hoops B 40 – 14 Lilac Ladies

Report by Fran:

Wanted to pass on my thanks and congratulations on last night's 40-14 win. An excellent start to the season albeit against an under capacity Lilac Ladies. I think we benefited from Lesley's side-line coaching too.

You all played really, really well and I'm sure it was tricky to pick out a Player of the Match, but extra congrats to Amy for picking up the prize.

D and Kaz waited patiently on the sidelines but had to remain in a cheerleading capacity as no subs were needed, even when Tina tumbled to the ground and needed first aid assistance!

We look forward to the next game against Giftware on 22nd September.

Well done Team B.

2008/09/22 vs Giftware Direct

Heath Hoops B 21 – 41 Giftware Direct

Report by Fran:

Despite a huge effort from all our girls, we found Giftware too fast and accurate on the night to be beaten. As always everyone in the team worked hard, and a change in tactics at half time stopped heads dropping. We tried to play to our strengths instead of chasing the game but it was all too easy to panic! Sadly, we could do nothing about the enviable skill of Giftware's shooters who rarely missed.

Amy and Shirley worked well together in attack backed up by Laura and Deidre in centre court. Helen, Kazza and Fran put up a strong fight in defence but could not hold back the well established Giftware attacking force.

In the final quarter our aim was to prevent Giftware from getting double our number of hoops, and we achieved this.

Thanks and well done to everyone who played with special recognition going to Laura who won our Player of the Match Award as WA and C.

Looking forward to our next match against Alexanders in 2 weeks time.

2008/10/06 vs Alexanders

Heath Hoops B 35 – 27 Alexanders

Report by Fran:

The Team B girls faced opposition from Alexanders on Monday evening in a wellmatch game.

From the outset, the game was very close, with even scores at the end of the first quarter. Team B kept the pressure on throughout the game taking the lead in the 2nd quarter and maintaining this through to the end, although Alexanders got very close at times. The opponents tried hard to keep Amy and Shirley from scoring but both gritted their teeth and kept fighting for the goals. Deidre and Tina were tireless across centre court, assisting both our attack and defence with interceptions and feeding the ball through to our scorers. Susan and Kaz stuck with their opposite numbers to hinder their play, but managed to get free to assist Tina when the marking going forward was tight. Kaz had a real battle against a lively GA who demonstrated speed and excellent shooting ability – Kaz stayed with her all night and never gave up. Fran, then Laura for the last quarter, defended solidly under the post.

Our efforts paid off as we pulled away in the last quarter to win 35-27 – relief and pleasure all round. Tina and Shirley shared the 'Player of the Match' award this week – well deserved!

Thank you to everyone – including our sideline supporters!

Looking forward to the next game in a couple of weeks against Doodlebugs C.

2008/11/03 vs *Diamond Divas*

Heath Hoops B 35 - 22 Diamond Divas

Report by Fran:

Heath Hoops B faced Diamond Divas on a wet evening at Wavell. During the first quarter the teams were evenly matched but Heath Hoops B took the lead in quarters 2 and 3 with consistent scoring from Shirley and Helen. Anne Marie and Tina in centre court settled into a sensible game of controlling a very slippery ball and feeding it up court to the shooters. As WD, Deidre worked tirelessly all evening to neutralise her opponents, and Susan demonstrated some fabulous blocking against a very nippy GA. Laura was our strong goalkeeper with long arms and good interceptions. Strong words at the end of the 3rd quarter brought Divas back into the game with a steady stream of hoops, but the Hoops lead could not be caught. Well done to all the players, who adapted their game to suit the conditions to offer an entertaining game of netball – Fran and Amy as Subs on the sidelines cheered and shouted throughout the match. The Player of the Match honour was shared between Helen and Laura. Deidre got a special mention too for having incredible fitness having stuck to her WA like glue. But all the girls played very well indeed. Another excellent win..... onto Blazing Angels in a couple of weeks, plus a catch up game against Doodlebugs C sometime in November.

2008/11/17 vs Blazing Angels

Report by Fran:

Heath Hoops B 20 30 Blazing Angels

Heath Hoops B suffered an unfortunate loss on Monday evening against longstanding rivals Blazing Angels. Angels took a swift lead in the first quarter; 11 goals ahead going into the break. Hoops settled in the 2nd quarter and started to play their own game but another 7 goals from Angels and only 4 from Hoops made the half time score 6 – 21.

Our girls accepted their shooting was a little off but came out after half time determined to change fortunes, and indeed Hoops commanded the game from there on in. Fran and Kaz in defence slowed the flow of goals from Blazing Angels (who only scored 9 in the 2nd half of the game) with some impressive interceptions and blocks. Laura, Anne-Marie and Deidre controlled centre court closing out Angels and feeding the ball up to a lively Amy and Helen H in the D, both of whom never gave up. Finally in the last quarter our shooting form returned bringing the final score up to 20 – 30. We wanted to keep playing despite the pouring rain! The match umpire commented after the game that we played “some lovely netball in the last 2 quarters”; something positive to take from the evening. Well done girls!

Once again, honours for Player of the Week were shared – Anne-Marie and Amy took away the chocolate! Thanks to Shirley who played as emergency sub in the 1st quarter despite her strapped fingers, and our resident supporter Alex!

We need to keep our heads up for the next couple of matches Doodlebugs C in late November and Silver Stars in early December.

2008/11/27 vs Doodlebugs C

Report by Fran:

Heath Hoops B 29 Doodlebugs C 13

The original Div 8 fixture was postponed due to rain, so Heath Hoops B played Doodlebugs C at Wavell in the pouring rain!

It was slippery underfoot, and hard to catch the ball but after a slow start by both teams, Hoops cruised into the lead and maintained that position throughout the match. Shirley settled in as GS and earned her 'Player of the Match' honour with consistent scoring. Amy took a ball in the face towards the end of the second quarter and was forced to retire from the match. Laura switched into GA and supported Shirley well, with Deidre becoming immediately effective as WA. As ever, Anne-Marie ran the full length of the court keeping the ball moving into attack. Susan had a strong game as WD with impressive interceptions and ball-snatching – well done. Kaz and Fran were very strong and physical in defence which frustrated the Doodlebugs attack. Helen S came on for the last quarter – good to see her back in the side.

Overall Hoops played very convincingly. Here is hoping Amy and Helen H will be back to full health for our next game – the tough challenge of Silver Stars on December 8th.

2008/12/08 vs Silver Stars

Report by Fran:

Heath Hoops B 28 Silver Stars 47

Having played Silver Stars a few weeks ago in a friendly meeting, Heath Hoops B knew they would have a challenge on their hands when the teams met last night in the League. Stars made the stronger start but Heath Hoops settled and the gap between the teams was not too great. Hels and Amy battled in attack to keep our score up, ably supported by Deidre, Anne-Marie and Susan in mid-court. Stars are fit and on form, and have certainly improved their game this season; they're very hard to break down. When Hoops got the ball, we played some fine – albeit fast – netball, but spent too much time chasing the game. We got close a couple of times but Silver Stars seemed to realise this and made tactical switches to keep us out of the game.

The GA and GS for Silver Stars put in good performances, and it took a huge effort from Kaz and Laura in defence to stem the flow of goals. Both pushed back all evening, and did their utmost to curb the Stars attack. Well done Laura as GK receiving Player of the Match – although everyone tried hard once again.

Hoops B gave Silver Stars a harder match than the final score suggests and should not be too despondent with the outcome.

Our last match before Christmas is against Rushmoor D next Monday (15th December).

2008/12/15 vs Rushmoor D

Team B 59 - 17 Rushmoor D

Report by Fran:

With 2 hours to go before the match against Rushmoor D on Monday evening, Heath Hoops B still weren't sure if they would have 7 players to start. Thankfully the girls rallied and we had a tremendous game. Well done to everyone, but particularly to Helen H (Player of the Match) and Amy who racked up a whopping 59 hoops between them. Deidre and Anne-Marie played with flair in centre court feeding the ball up to the Hoops attack. To be fair to Susan, Laura and Fran there wasn't very much to do in defence, although they did have to chase the nippy Rushmoor attackers when they broke away.

Credit to Rushmoor who played with dignity and did not give up on the game despite falling far behind from the first quarter.

A fabulous win and end of the first half of the season, with some lessons to take away ready for the post-Christmas games. Heath Hoops B are back in action against Lilac Ladies on 5th January at Wavell.

2009/01/12 vs Lilac Ladies

Team B 30 - 19 Lilac Ladies

Report by Fran:

A damp dismal Monday evening could not suppress the spirits when Heath Hoops B took on Lilac Ladies in the re-scheduled Div 8 match. The game started at a fast pace, but was extremely close after the first quarter with Hoops only just leading. As Hoops settled, they stretched that lead keeping five ahead at the end of the second and third quarters. In terms of performances, Shirley and Amy displayed excellent shooting, getting around the Lilacs formidable GK. They were ably fed by Tina and Anne-Marie in centre court – the build up play was sublime and patient passing by Hoops wrong-footed the opposition and allowed the scoring to rack up. Hoops chased balls and kept their heads which gave them the advantage over Lilac Ladies throughout the game.

In defence, Helen, Hels / Susan and Fran held strong against the Ladies through imposing man-marking. Under the net, Hoops intercepted balls and snatched rebounds to frustrate the shooters. Fran as GK earned Hoops Player of the Match with long arms and blocks.

In the last quarter the lead stretched to eleven with Hoops taking a 30-19 victory. Both teams enjoyed the evening and worked hard. Hoops were pleased with their overall team performance as well as individual efforts, having put into play the tactics they worked on in training.

Next Match is against Giftware Direct on Monday 19th January.

2009/01/19 vs Giftware Direct

Heath Hoops B 38 23 Giftware Direct

Report by Fran:

A cold evening at Wavell had Heath Hoops B warming up enthusiastically before their clash with Giftware, who beat us in our previous meeting. Hoops had a strong first quarter which is what was needed to settle the team and give us the lead to build on. Consistent shooting yet again from Shirley and Amy resulted in a pleasing final score. Shirley held her space well to create opportunities, and Amy was fast and springy moving from centre court to an under-post position in a flash. They were ably supported through delightful gameplay by Tina and Anne-Marie in centre court – despite a very athletic Giftware Centre; who was everywhere!

Patient play and calling for the ball allowed Hoops to control the game and close Giftware down, although both teams were called up for footwork more often than we would like.

Helen S demonstrated her fighting spirit with a gritty performance against 3 different WAs – keep it up! Susan picked up on tips from the last match and teamed with Laura effectively in the circle, both holding the Giftware shooters and snatching rebounds.

Fran and Helen H cheered on from the frozen sidelines, encouraging Hoops to maintain their lead and not get sloppy. Everyone fought hard to produce an excellent result – well done! Congratulations to Anne-Marie who was voted Hoops Player of the Match for her fine display of skill and reading of the game which brought the team together. And she had to run around after the dashing Giftware Centre for almost an hour ;-).

Heath Hoops B meet Alexanders in two weeks time.

2009/02/16 vs Doodlebugs C

Heath Hoops B 35 - 14 Doodlebugs C

Report by Anne-Marie:

The match against Doodlebugs C was dominated by Heath Hoops following a strong performance throughout.

The first half of the game consisted of solid skills up and down the court. Shirley and Amy were both agile around the attacking end of the court and shooting well. In the centre court, at WA, D provided speed against a fast opponent, A-M kept up with a fit centre and Helen did some excellent interceptions. Susan and Laura at the defensive end of the court worked hard against an aggressive pair of shooters, and held the opposition's score down.

A change of defensive tactics was tried after half time involving the double marking of the opposition's accurate GS by Laura and Susan, and A-M focussing on holding out their powerful GA. Hels came on as GS for the last quarter, and showed her strength in holding space and intercepting. These changes allowed Heath Hoops to stretch out their lead further, ending in a final score of 34-14. Amy deservedly won player of the match after working hard to ensure the ball was brought safely and effectively into our circle.

Well done to all for such a great score-line!

Heath Hoops B face Diamond Divas next on 2nd March

2008/03/02 vs Diamond Divas

Heath Hoops B 32 - 24 Diamond Divas

Report by Fran:

An evening of almost perfect conditions for playing netball saw Heath Hoops B take another win in Wavell Div 8 against the physical Diamond Divas. Our team stood strong and combined individual efforts made an effective team performance. Shirley stayed on form with some fabulous shooting, and Amy came on as the agile and skilful GA. Excellent mid-court control was displayed by Tina, Anne-Marie and D, who called and supported one another. Anne-Marie slotted into the game when she came on at half time, pulling it all together. Tina worked tirelessly despite some hard calls. D demonstrated her amazing fitness throughout the game against springy opponents. Helen S showed great determination fighting for the ball and snatching good interceptions. Laura as always stood her ground in defence, first as GD against a very active GA then as Keeper.

Hels displayed great skill both in attack then defence, with excellent use of space across the court – a well deserved Hoops Player of the Match!

A fine result that sets up the challenge for one of the top places in Div 8, along with Blazing Angels – the next opponents for Heath Hoops B in the league.

2009/03/16 vs Blazing Angels

Heath Hoops B 30 – 30 Blazing Angels

Report by Fran:

There was a nail-biting encounter between 2 old rivals in Wavell Div 8 on Monday evening as Heath Hoops B faced Blazing Angels. Hoops lost when these teams met last in the league so started out determined to win this time around. The entire match was very close, with both teams taking the lead at various times although Hoops finished the first 3 quarters ahead.

Throughout the game Shirley and Amy battled well against the physical Angels defence, holding space and scoring some delightful goals. Hels (playing yet another change of position), Tina © and D flew in centre court, staying on their opponents, taking command, and feeding the ball to the Hoops attack. Laura and Fran in defence worked to frustrate the Angels attack that was nippy and co-ordinated.

Going into the last quarter both teams fought to come out the victor – emotions and nerves were showing and every goal heralded a whoop or groan depending which team had scored. With the score at 30 – 30 Hoops shot.....but the ball went through the hoop just a second after the final whistle had blown so it didn't count. Both teams were frustrated by the draw, but wow what a match!

D was awarded Hoops Player of the Match for her tireless efforts as WD. Helen, Susan and Debbie provided sideline moral support and advice on tactics throughout the match – thank you to everyone; a tremendous team effort!

Heath Hoops face Div 8 leaders Silver Stars in their next match on 23rd March.