

Oakhill at Hockey in April 2011 Boys & Girls

YORK EASTER FESTIVAL – This was the 37th York Easter Festival, and the 12th in which girls competed. Obviously, the teams who played – from different parts of the country are those who do not always play on Astro. 14 Girls Teams and 13 Boys Teams. Oakhill has been playing on and off since 2006. In the previous decade, some Oakhill players joined the Invitation team coached by PeeBee. Dave Pryke was finally able to get Oakhill accepted in 2005 as previous York Headmasters had a thing against us – “Lang hare”. The 2006 team were sadly a disgrace to the name of the school with their behaviour and language. Under the influence of Robert Muir in 2009, and perpetuated by Wes Robinson and Nick Heymans in 2010, a finer cut of kid has emerged. The 2011 Boys team has no matriculants, and has a bevy of players from Grade 9 to Grade 11. Their strength has been their unselfishness and readiness to throw a pass. The Girls range from Grade 9 to Grade 12 and must have been hardpressed to choose the final 14, and thus deny a few others the chance of competing. Their cement is Inge van Staden – what a persona!

The 2011 results were

Oakhill	Opponent	Man of Match	Scorers	Result
Girls	Uplands	Kirsten Duthie	Tayla Katz (2)	Won 2 - 0
Girls	Edgemead	Inge van Staden	Olivia Gardy	Won 1 - 0
Girls	Warmbad	Anola Walk Maricia Schempers	No scorer	Lost 0 - 1
Girls	Pinelands	Kate Gardy	Oloivia Gardy	Drew 1 - 1
Girls	Outeniqua B	Anola Walk	Mikayla Oliver	Drew 1 - 1
Girls	Camps Bay	Amie Williams	Inge v Staden; Tyla Katz; Olivia Gardy	Won 3 - 0

The only game lost was against the weakest team and played on Astro.

Boys	Durbanville	Nicholas Cuthbert	Athe Magadla; Tom Marrow	Won 2 - 0
Boys	Edgemead	Athe Magadla	Athe Magadla	Won 1 - 0
Boys	Pinelands	Tom Marrow	Tom Marrow	Won 1 - 0
Boys	Camps Bay	Brandon Wilcocks	Josh Pieters (3); Chris Marrow; Caleb Bell	Won 5 - 0
Boys	Port Rex	Stephen Cameron	Josh Pieters; Brandon Wilcocks; Chris Marrow; Luke & Caleb Bell	Won 5 - 0
Boys	Grey B	Leo Thesen	Josh Pieters	Drew 1 - 1
Boys	St Dominics	Leo Thesen	Tom Marrow; josh Pieters	Won 2 - 0

OAKHILL GIRLS 2 UPLANDS 1. Man of the Match: Kirsten Duthie. Goals by Tyla Katz (2)

We must have had 16 shorties in this game; but both goals were scored from excellent variations – Inge to Maricia – a sweep – on to Tyla at the post. Tyla has that lovely knack of wanting to score, and there are no reasons why this was an undesirable situation. Keeper Amy Williams made the vital save, and Kirsten Duthie was beautifully relaxed in getting down to the tackle on a number of occasions. . Some guys got to grips with their game, and some struggled. You cannot play with what you have not got – thus the first thing is to get control of the ball – not by swiping and not by rushing around. Anola Walk showed oomph. Their goal was from a shortcorner. Inge made sure that the girls focused not to throw the game. The Girls were trying to do the right thing, which was nice to see, and they were not bitching each other. It was a lovely start, and all players had a 75% run.

OAKHILL BOYS 2 DURBANVILLE 0 Man of Match: Nick Cuthbert. Scorers: Tom Marrow and Athe

We scored in the first minute when Tinky gave a lovely balanced pass to Joshua Pieters. We need a video camera to show the kids the evidence of poor technique. Often one wanders “Why is one player selected above another?” it is these basic issues that should become the matter of practices. The lack of creativity in midfield cramped us, but physically we could match them. Tom Marrow was also far too right handed. He made a great run along the back line to set up Athe’s goal. Caspar was a star and made 2 great stick saves – including a great one just on time. Even Mr Kidwell said how impressed he was by the impact of Caspar. Did he not win the PeeBee Trophy, for those – who because of them - others play. Too few boys are playing these days.

OAKHILL GIRLS 1 EDGEMEAD 0 Man of the Match : Inge van Staden. Goal by Olivia Gardy
Girls have a strange way of listening. If told something, they genuinely try, although the execution is not always classic. We went into this game against a co-ordinated Edgemean team that could have won 3-1, but if we kept our sticks low in the area in front of the keeper, with the crook of the stick between ball and goals we could deny them the 3 and thus win by the one. Edgemean launched a horde of raids but there was always one of our heroines getting that crook in. Amy Williams got her positioning sound and kept out 2 goals. We scored the only winner when the great hearted Inge played a beautifully weighted through ball to Olivia Gardy whose breakthrough was classic as she sneaked the ball under the keeper. Luckily this lifted the team, who slowly strangled their midfield. It was not beautiful to watch as we sacrificed a bit of structure to hold on to the score, but it was adrenalin stuff. Maricia Schempers had a bad game on the ball but her positional play disconcerted their forwards. Our defenders were resolute in their clearing especially in getting the ball to our right. The players shared time with everyone getting at least 75% of the time.

OAKHILL BOYS 1 EDGEMEAD 0 Man of Match : Athe Magadla Goal by Athe Magadla.
This game had 2 contrasting features. The first was excellent co-ordinated play with raids up the right, and some chronic right handed tackles that led to free hits against us – and on and on it went. Major culprits were Tom Marrow, Josh Pama, and to an extent Chris Marrow and Josh Pieters. Leo Thesen's tackling has become too physical and he began to be exposed. It was so needless but it goes on game after game. The Senior boys think they are above being coached in specific technique. Page One remains Page One. Athe was heavily bandaged but his running was great. He just lifts the lesser players. In the match the faults of the same certain players keep repeating and yet they retained their game despite their exposed faults. And then others sit on the side of the field to get 15 minutes of a possible 150 for the day. So though it was a day of victory, it was also a day of defeat. Niels was strong. It was from a great clearance that Athe created the winning goal through sheer speed and determination. Brandon Wilcocks met Niels at Tempo in Holland and invited him to spend time at Oakhill. He is a great kid.

OAKHILL BOYS 1 PINELANDS 0 Man of Match : Tom Marrow. Scorer: Tom Marrow
The only goal of the game was from a good pass to the right from a struggling Josh Pieters who picked up a 16 yard clearance, and fed it out to Chris Marrow on the right. He charged into the circle and whammed a shot going wide until Thomas moved in from his favourite 10 position, It was a worthy winner, albeit Josh was having a shocker as he died with ball after ball down the middle going left only. Tinky was creative, and Caspar saved not only 3 good shots and 4 predicaments where the uncertain Leo left him unprotected. Pinelands lost their cool and started to play long balls into the circle, but the grassy field favoured our defence. Pinelands were to defeat York 2-1, the first defeat of York in 10 years at the York Festival. Stephen was slipping a lot, and getting blown for his gawkiness. Caspar was the hero. Leo Thesen's new rough slide tackle was proving ineffective.

OAKHILL GIRLS 0 WARBAD 1 Man of Match: Anora in First Half and Maricia Schempers in 2nd)
This was our astro game, so I decided that everyone plays at least three quarters of the game each. It cost us the game as the balance was always a bit out. They scored when they went through from a shortcorner. Our sweepers were changing and so it was an amateur proceeding. Real cheap goal. Inge tried to put oomph into the game. I think I erred when Anola was playing with so much electricity, but in the second half I tried a tactic, and never being in my Maths class, Anola could not understand. Very few women have ever understood me. Our front running was ineffective as Tyla rather hung behind behind a defender and got closed off – too uptight.

OAKHILL BOYS 5 CAMPS BAY 0 Man of Match: Brandon Wilcocks Scorers: Josh Pieters (3); Chris Marrow; Caleb Bell). We took a while to break their play and then it was one way. Tom Marrow was running off the ball beautifully and Tinky showed his creativity. Fortunately the shortcorners were being varied. Chris Marrow scored a strong goal, and Caleb who was gathering moss on the bench - but not as much as Bushbaby - scored a good goal off the pads. The boys moved the ball around which prevented them from going stale. Brandon's speed worked up front. Camps Bay were not a force, but they had a nice unity.

OAKHILL GIRLS 1 PINELANDS HIGH 1 (Scorer : Olivia Gardy. Man of the Match: Kate Gardy)
We lead 1-0 for most of the game, and though they had provincial players we contended and put them under pressure. nearly scoring 3 others. From good play by Inge at a shortcorner Olivia scored.

Emma Horn cost us a short corner when she did not retreat 5 metres. They scored. We missed 5 or 6 attempts to clear, by just reaching and lunging, We nearly scored from another Olivia runaway. It would have been a great piece of history. As is the nature of Women, Our girls did not know they were playing a top team who had provincial players, but just focused on breaking them, and playing a more intelligent game than in the Warmbad disaster. In this game our left side defenders were under continuous pressure, and felt it. Our defenders – holding the stick too tight – cleared out to the left, so we just gave the ball back to them and said “Come Again” and the cycle continued.

OAKHILL BOYS 5 PORT REX 0 (on Astro). Man of Match: Stephen Cameron. (Scorers: Brandon Wilcocks; Josh Pieters; Chris Marrow; Luke Bell; Caleb Bell)

For the first time I saw a great game on Astro by Stephen Cameron, who no longer got buried over the ball. We forced oodles of short corners. From short corner variations, Tom made goals for Chris and Tinky that were well taken. Caleb’s smasher background was a winner that Chris tried to emulate. Nick Cuthbert was a bit scratchy, but is worth his weight to a team because of his unselfishness. It starts with Nick. Josh Pieters was too strong in the right hand, and needs to drive more with the left hand and going down into the challenge. His physical strength enabled him to burst through on many occasions. I wish I can see Stephen repeating that performance against tougher teams.

OAKHILL GIRLS 1 OUTENIQUA B 1 (Man of Match : Anola Walk, Scorer Mikayla Oliver.)

This was a case of starting from scratch. They started off well structured but we nearly scored 3 times on breakaways. Amy made a great glove save. Inge was a tower of strength and as the game progressed we began to dominate. Their play had been broken but we conceded a goal when we were in the process of changing sweeper. We must have missed 10 in the 2nd half , at least 10 in one move. But the girls were hounding together and getting into the circle. We competed in midfield for the ball and really tried to make goals for each other. Mikayla equalised from a short corner. You could say that Inge’s sweet butter-melting eyes got both umpires onto our side. Meanwhile she used her rump to advantage. Little Anola Walk was true magic. She was literally the whole right hand side of the field. What a hockey career lies ahead of her. Olivia welcomed criticism and suggestion. She, Lulu and Kirstie van Staden began to look good. There was some truly beautiful passing, but the extra tight grip in the right hand of the girls just made the pass too much to the left.

OAKHILL BOYS 1 GREY BLOEM B TEAM 1 (Man of Match : Leo Thesen. Scorer Josh Pieters)

Grey led just after half time, but Josh scored from a shortie to equalise. Caspar conceded his first goal in 6 matches. He has been so dedicated. I did not watch the game as the girls were playing at the same time. It was apparently one of those nobody up and down games where substitutes played little role. Neither team warmed up properly because the Green Bag with the helmets had gone astray. A week ago, the dirty scruffy blue ball bag had 36 balls belonging to SWD. The number now is less than 10. I am afraid that our kids are just far to selfish. The girls are better. To then say that this is the job of the Grade 9s in the team is a crime. The boys have to change their attitude.

OAKHILL GIRLS 3 CAMPS BAY 0 (Man of Match : Amy Williams. Scorers: Olivia Gardy; Inge ; Tyla)

Talk of starting from scratch. It was scratch all the way. We nearly started with 10 players. So with no warm-up we luckily proved stronger than them with Inge winning the physical battle against their strong midfielder. Amy made 3 fine saves with her gloves. Lulu nearly scored in the first minute. Goals were scored by Inge, Olivia and Tyla – but there were at least a dozen misses. There has to be something other than honest effort. Mikayla played a good game but she was not smiling.

OAKHILL BOYS 2 ST DOMINICS 0 (Man of Match: Leo Thesen Scorers:Tom Marrow; Joshua Pieters)

The game was hardly on against the wild playing St Dominics before Tinky was off. Chris had been building thrust all week, and was a force. Josh Pieters improved his play and sustained his efforts longer. He could take their physicality. Against the run off play, on our first attack, forced a shortie. Josh’s flick was saved by the keeper, but Tom sneaked in to score a great reflex goal. They nearly equalised, but by being too wild they lost the advantage. Josh scored a good drag flick for the 2nd goal. Luke put a great shot behind that could have been the goal of all time at Oakhill. We all had to look twice to check that this was Tinky who shot, as he was not on the canonised list. Eventually they got broken and we put in raid upon raid

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	<p>Pinelands, York, Victoria Park, Outeniqua all brought Boys and Girls Under 14, and Oakhill brought a Boys team only. We brought a real scratch eleven where Ben Giliomee was entrusted to captain a group with his bearded friends Tristan McKechnie, Charlie Fulford and Finn Stevenson (who did not turn up on Day One). Joining them were the only genuine Under 14 players in Greg Cuthbert & Josh McCaw as the others do not want to play or have left Oakhill. Josh Bennett (Pommy) offered his services, as did little ones Jake Turner and TseTseFly Tadzjo XYZski; and chaps like Nick Thompson, Stephen Campbell, Luke Mincione, Dimitri Paggis, Andrew Vedder and Tyrone Minnie. Chico coached the side and driver Etiene looked after the kit, whilst PeeBee observed, pen in hand.</p>
	<p><u>Oakhill 0 York 0</u> Man of the Match : Luke Minceione York on paper had a very good side with all their players balanced and capable, but their better players were too physical, so instead of waiting for our errors and building up they used the wrong tactics. Goalkeeper Luke Minceione saved 4 rasping shots and when he made a glove save, he cheered himself. He did seem to be an odd type of keeper, but he won Man of the Match and deservedly so. Greg Cuthbert showed that he can match any York kid. He forced a few shorties as he and Ben controlled midfield. It was like a game of chess using draughts trying to give everyone a chance as they wanted to dictate where they were to play. Little Tsetsefly did not touch the ball, so he was quite sad. We sure made it impossible for York to establish a style, and we could have sneaked in a victory.</p>
	<p><u>Oakhill 2 Pinelands 0.</u> Man of Match : Stephen Campbell. Scorers: Jake Turner, Greg Cuthbert In this game, Ben, Jake Turner and Greg Cuthbert were the structure, the latter as cool as his brother is tense. Tristan was cutting out all the Pinelands attacks. Josh McCaw did not have a good first game but his running at 45° disconcerted them. Stephen Campbell was resolute and determined and forced them into errors. Ben captained well and Jake Turner proved by his skill that he knows the game. Jake took his goal well and set up another 10, but everyone took turns to miss in front. The boys played together and all 14 in the squad got a decent run. Jake's interplay with Josh McCaw was great. The whole team felt united and proud. They had all contributed, and they all had time on the pitch, whether they were Good, Bad or Ugly. Chico had no voice left by the end but he was proud of the guys.</p>
	<p><u>Oakhill 2 Victoria Park 3</u> Man of Match : Jake Turner Scorers : Finn Stevenson, Jake Turner We were unlucky when their star whacked a ball from outside the circle and our keeper kicked it on to one of their poachers sticks. We equalised with a great goal inspired by Jake and finished by Finn, From a 16 yard hit, Greg Cuthbert played the ball straight to them. We were doewn again. Then it went to 1-3 down when a long ball was going behind and Charlie tried to stop it, giving their man a chance from the resulting shortie. It was so needless as all 3 goals were avoidable. Jake aided by Finn scored a resounding 2nd goal – but it was too late. Victoria Park are an excellent team. We were on paper, the weakest , but we were the most intelligent in places. Personally I think thast Jake Turner was the real difference.</p>
	<p><u>Oakhill 1 Outeniqua 1</u> Man of Match : Finn Stevenson &Greg Cuthbert. Scorer: Ben Giliomee Outeniqua were a strong structured team, but Greg and Finn competed so well that they were cut down to size , with their dangerous hero very much frustrated. Finn was weak in the previous game, but he was a star this time creating at least a dozen dangerous runs around the back of their defence, The star was Greg Cuthbert whose stopping of the Outeniqua whacks, and the use of the ball was better than I have seen for a ,long time. This guy has kop. Finn forced a stack of shorties one of which Ben converted. Unfortunately just when it looked like we would secure victory, Nick cleared weakly, and they built a move. Ben got a bit scared of the wild swing that resulted in their goal. They were regarded as the best team and take their hockey seriously, and they hound together well – but they were up against Greg and so they came short. Chico kept quiet in the first half and suffered angina and heartache in the second. Luckily guys like Ben (a very good captain) and Greg Cuthbert and Little Man Jake were prepared to question – and to state that they struggled with the myriad of changing instructions I always hold the view that players like Rogan Jansen, Caleb Bell, Jake Turner do not need coaching. They know in their pinky fingers more than any coach ever knows.</p>

Hockey is a horrible game because at many of the top provinces they rigidly dictate what every player has to do. So the robots bore everyone except Granny and the WAGS. This world must make place for Messi, for Stanley Matthews, for Bryan Habana - for the truly gifted.

Summary of Under 14

Opponent	Oakhill result	Man Of Match	Scorer
York U14A	Drew 0-0	Luke Minceione	-
Pinelands U14A	Won 2 -0	Stephen Campbell	Jake Turner; Greg Curhbert
Victoria Park A	Lost 2 - 3	Jake Turner	Finn Stephenson, Jake Turner
Outeniqua A	Drew 1 – 1	Greg Campbell/Finn Stevenson	Ben Giliomee

Man of the Tournament : Jake Turner