

# SPORT

Read the latest sports news at [harrowtimes.co.uk/sport](http://harrowtimes.co.uk/sport)

## Grim's Dyke ladies deliver Pearson prize

THE ladies of Grim's Dyke Golf Club showed that anything the men can do, they can do just as well. After the men dominated the Middlesex golf scene last year - winning eight team titles - the ladies have struck first this season by landing the sought after Pearson Trophy for the first time in 18 years. Grim's Dyke topped their qualifying group with four wins and in the Middlesex semi-final the Pinner-based club beat Muswell Hill (4-1) in the morning before overcoming Finchley in a thrilling final at Stanmore GC. With the scores level at 3-3, the final match went right down to the 18th before Grim's Dyke won the last hole to claim the trophy. In the Inter County Finals at Hindhead GC last month, Grim's Dyke came up against the Surrey champions Roehampton in the last four and lost to the eventual winners. Grim's Dyke captain Maggie Pinner said: "We were delighted to finally win the Middlesex Trophy after losing several finals in recent years. It's a great boost for the ladies."



Grim's Dyke Ladies have proven they are equal to the club's men with success in the prestigious Pearson Trophy

**FOOTBALL:** Pre-season ends with a win after 'really good test'

## Stones boss Taylor is ready for league opener

WEALDSTONE boss Matt Taylor described Saturday's 3-2 win over Hemel Hempstead as 'a really good test' as the Stones rounded off their pre-season campaign with a hard-fought victory over the National League South side.

A brace from Sam Ashford paired with an excellent volleyed finish from veteran Adrian Mariappa secured the win, although two avoidable strikes from the away side dampened the enthusiasm ahead of the Stones' looming National League campaign.

"It was a really good test for us. It was a test we haven't had up to this point in pre-season," said Taylor.

"Hemel were really good in the way that they tried to get the ball down the sides of us. They wanted to be direct. So, from my point of view and from a

By Tom Norton  
[londoncommunity@newsquest.co.uk](mailto:londoncommunity@newsquest.co.uk)

coaching perspective, it was a really good test because it gave us something different to have to deal with.

"We scored a really good goal in the first half. We were patient in possession. We moved the ball well and waited for the opportunity to arise for us to play a forward pass for Sean (Adarkwa) to get a shot off, and Sam was in front of goal.

"In the moments where we needed quality, we had them, but there's still a huge amount for us to work on, and that will always be the way the season will go.

"Are we going to be the finished arti-

cle yet? No. What we have is an opportunity to train and train really well to put us in the best frame of mind for the game coming up against Dagenham.

"Pre-season's been really good, in terms of the varied opposition we've had, and what it does now is it puts us in a good position.

"Will we want to challenge the players this week? Yes, we will. It will be a tough week of training for them, but coming off of today with another win, hopefully the players can go into that with a bit of momentum."

Having won three of seven pre-season fixtures, the former West Ham winger gave an honest assessment of the biggest takeaways from his preparations for the new season.

"We've looked at a couple of system

changes in pre-season. That's helped us a lot. I have information for the players to take on," Taylor told the club website.

"One of the main positives for me has been their attitude and application towards everything we've asked them to do. The players have been really respectful around the core beliefs that I hold, both in possession and out of possession.

"We've got to this point and put a lot of work into the players, but there's still a lot more that needs to be done.

"We're going to prep really well for the game, but the players are acutely aware of what we want and what I want in possession and out of possession, but I think my job is to continuously drive them to be better, whether that's with the ball or without it."



Adrian Mariappa celebrates scoring for Wealdstone

Image: Jon Taffel