



A belated welcome to this season's new players: Hugh, Alistair, Reuben, Debb, Jim and Jon. It's good to have you with us. Castle recruit throughout the year, and new players can play for free for two months to see if they enjoy it. Why not bring along a friend? New players are very welcome and will be shown the basics in their first few sessions. If you're finding it difficult to persuade them, why not tell them they look fat after Christmas?*

*[*The club accepts no liability for the consequences of this action.]*



Upcoming tournaments:

Sunday 31st January: SaCKA tournament at Keele (12-4pm), all welcome.

Saturday 6th February: Leeds University tournament. We won it last year!



Tournament update: So far this season, Castle have entered teams into 3 tournaments. At the Keele Freshers' Tournament, the Castle team finished in an impressive and unbeaten 1st place. We came 4th in the Manchester Warriors Christmas tournament; particular mention in this one must go to the rookies Reuben, Jim and Debbie, who played fantastically well, and the Castle girls who played for 3 teams and barely got an opportunity to rest during the day! We entered 2 teams into the Manchester University tournament, and managed to come 4th and 10th, with us once again losing third place to our arch-nemeses, Birmingham. The girls managed to score an amazing 24 goals between them, with Ann bagging an impressive 8 and Debbie continuing to prove she is a goal machine (and steal machine) with 6. I'd like to take this opportunity to congratulate the boys for their fearsome, dedicated and unselfish support work!! Lets carry on the good work at the Leeds tournament on the 6th February! [Tom]

Tom's Referee's Quiz:

Castle 1 are fielding a team against Leeds. Unfortunately Tom is unable to play after cycling over a cliff, so his division is a player down, with Nigel being the only boy. There are no subs. At the end of the game the score is 4 – 0 to Castle, with Jon having scored all 4 goals. How is this possible?

Tom's Korfball Trivia Quiz:

What is the most number of goals scored by one player in a top level Dutch match?



Castle 1 Report: The beginning of Castle 1's season has been particularly difficult as we have lost the experience and goal scoring ability of two of last season's key players, and also had the necessity of re-arranging the divisions that goes along with this. In a sense we have had to jump in at the deep end, getting used to playing styles and opportunities that our current configuration may bring whilst playing against settled, quality teams.

Despite the unconvincing reading that our scorelines make, the season has continued to build in the quality and fluency of the korfball being played. Each game sees more and more opportunities evolving, and our unity is becoming much more convincing. It will always be difficult for us to come close to winning against the majority of teams in this league, with many having international players amongst their number! However, with better finishing we ought to be capable of producing more convincing scorelines from our side. In particular, our recent away game against Manchester Warriors ended up 20-2, but the problem with our low score was not an inability to cope with their defence but not converting our opportunities. On a better day we could well have been looking at 20-12.

We are fortunate that after the departure of Ruth we have had excellent girls joining the club (Sarah and Amanda) and excellent and improved play from Karen and Emily, who have stepped into the Castle 1 fold. Ol and Ann have also played well for Castle 1 as substitutes and I intend to continue giving them Castle 1 game time in the New Year.

Onward and, fingers crossed, a bit more upward! [Tom]



The season's remaining fixtures look like this:

(NB. Some fixtures have changed from previous lists and are still to be confirmed. Please check with your team captain.)

Castle 1				
07/02/2010	Sunday	Nottingham 2	Away	2.30pm
14/02/2010	Sunday	Manchester Warriors	Home	12.30pm
28/02/2010	Sunday	Leeds City	Home	12.30pm
14/03/2010	Sunday	Manchester City	Home	12.30pm
21/03/2010	Sunday	Birmingham City	Home	2.30pm
28/03/2010	Sunday	Castle 2	Away	12.30pm
11/04/2010	Sunday	Sheffield Trotters	Away	12.00pm

Castle 2				
24/01/2010	Sunday	CaNKorf	Away	3.30pm
14/02/2010	Sunday	Keele 1	Home	2.00pm
28/02/2010	Sunday	Castle 3	Home	2.00pm
19/03/2010	Friday	Keele 1	Away	8.00pm
28/03/2010	Sunday	Castle 1	Home	12.30pm

Castle 3				
24/01/2010	Sunday	Keele1	Home	12.30pm
05/02/2010	Friday	Keele 2	Away	8.00pm
28/02/2010	Sunday	Castle 2	Away	2.00pm
05/03/2010	Friday	Keele 2	Home	8.00pm
21/03/2010	Sunday	CaNKorf	Away	3.30pm

Mid-season SaCKL table: looking good for Castle 2...

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Diff	Pts
Castle 2	4	4	0	0	33	18	15	8
CaNKorf 1	3	2	0	1	30	18	12	4
Castle 3	2	1	0	1	12	7	5	2
Keele Uni 1	2	0	0	2	11	22	-11	0
Keele Uni 2	3	0	0	3	15	36	-21	0



Match Report: Castle 3 (3) - Castle 2 (6), Sun Nov 22nd 09

In the first Castle derby of the season, Castle 3 took on Castle 2 in a close and exciting game at Kidsgrove. There was only one goal in it until about the last ten minutes when Castle 2 managed to pull ahead. Castle 3's players (Debb, Jim, Hugh and Alistair) were joined by Ann, Lucie from Keele, and Sarah and Rob from CaNKorf, and they did really well to contain the more experienced Castle 2 players for most of the game. Their goals came from Alistair and Debb with running-in shots, and a great free pass from Hugh. Castle 2 played the more structured korfbal and created many scoring chances. Matt, Mike, Helen and Dave Webb were unlucky not to make it on to the scoresheet. Goals came from Julia with 2 from under the post, excellent long shots from Ol and Katy, and 2 penalties from Karen. Thanks to Jon for refereeing. [Mary]

Pre-season mini-tournament, Manchester Velodrome, Sun Oct 4th 09 (Castle, CaNKorf and Manchester x 2)

There was an inauspicious start with one of the korfs being only 2 metres off the ground, this was put right in about the third game. The games were tough for a number of odd reasons: the markings were weird, there were cyclists powering around at incredible speeds going whizzz, we had a few subs which meant chopping and changing line-ups. Helen scored a great long shot just before (I would say) the final whistle, but the goal alas was disallowed. Overall we came second equal and had some valuable pre-season experience. [Mike]

Don't forget to look at www.castlekorfball.co.uk for dates of fixtures, tournaments and social events, match results and league tables. There's a link to the club forum where you can read and post match reports, etc. Let Mary know if you need a username.

Long-standing member Adam Golberg left us recently to start a new job in Nottingham. Adam contributed enormously to the club, both on and off the court, including by coaching and generally encouraging new players. His excellent understanding of the game was invaluable in his captaincy roles, and he won Castle awards for Best Team Player and Most Dedicated Player. Adam's committee roles included the production of some highly amusing newsletters. Thanks for all you did Adam, we hope to see you on a korfbal court again soon.

Jo Chadburn has decided to give korfbal a break after the time she has been with us. Her help as secretary, particularly during the change to the new online korfbal league system, has been invaluable and we would like to thank her for this. We would also like to welcome Amanda on to the committee as the club's new secretary – thanks Maz!

(Two parrots were sitting on a perch. One said, can you smell fish?)

Tom's Referee's Quiz Answer:

Jon's division starts in attack and he scores 2 goals. After the switch, Nigel comes off injured. It is permitted to move Jon to the other division to replace Nigel to ensure there are legal divisions. Jon scores the next two goals then complains about being old.

Tom's Trivia Quiz Answer: 16 by Jos Roseboom from Dalto.

To see some incredible goals by one of the most talented Korfbal players of all time, Michiel Gerritsen, go to <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZbS2qxbVswM>

The editor would like to thank Ann and Katy for unknowingly supplying photos.

