

## Hythe Aqua Junior Water Polo

London League Division 3 – Hythe Aqua under 16's

Sunday 7th November 2021, Hythe Aqua played a mixed under 16's tournament at Whitgift School, South Croydon as part of the London Division 3 league. Hythe were able to take a team of 11 to the tournament. For some of the newer players Adam Fox and Rachel Ollis this was their first experience of a Water Polo tournament.



In the first game against Ealing, all the team managed to play and learnt some valuable skills in both attack and defence. James Cavanagh played brilliantly in goal and was able to throw some great long shots to put Will Carter into a strong position to shoot. Will showed some outstanding swimming and handling skills with the ball and demonstrated why he has been selected by the county and Southeast region for his age group. Although Hythe conceded the game 5-3 it gave motivation to the team to step up and be counted and allowed the newer members to gain understanding of body defence and position in the pool.

Against Otters, Hythe came out strongly and not only defended but attacked further up the pool, with Connor Alecks, Reece Johnson and Izaak Guck making some terrific passes. We were able to consolidate on Will Carter's skills by winning 5-3. The team worked together extremely well, Hudson, Kabi and Neru Thevarajah acted as a solid defensive wall and Harry Oakes was able to show his quick reactions protecting the goal from the incoming attacks and speed of response with a long pass.

In the final game, Hythe played the strongest opposition Barnet, who were well drilled and able to break the defence. The team demonstrated resilience keeping their heads up and staying strong despite going down in both halves of the game. The rotated subs continued to mark players putting in 100% effort. Will and James both made attacks up the pool and unfortunately were thwarted by a strong goalkeeping.

TEAM: Connor, Will C, James C, Adam, Izaak, Reece, Hudson, Harry, Rachel, Kabi, Neiru,