

Field hockey – Doherty taking a game at a time



Focused: action from last weekend's Division One clash at Fettes College between Grange and Bromac Kelburne. Picture by Nigel Duncan Media

Nathan Doherty refuses to take a long-term view and is focused only on Grange's next Division One fixture.

That is a visit to Peffermill on Saturday to face Edinburgh University, a team who have enjoyed mixed results so far this term.

Changes in personnel due to students moving on and injuries to senior players have not assisted coach Graham Moodie.

However, despite that, the students sit in fifth place in ten-strong Division One with seven points from four outings.

Grange are second on a goal difference of one from pace-setting Western Wildcats after their 3-0 victory over champions Bromac Kelburne, who slip from top to third, last Saturday at Fettes.

Doherty was a key member of that squad and was pleased with the outcome but he has been around the block and knows that one result, even against the long-time champions, does not guarantee anything.

The fast-talking, 26-year-old stopper said: "We dominated the game against Kelburne and the guys played really well.

"However, we have a long way to go. There are ten teams in this league and we play them each twice so there is a lot of hockey to be played yet.

“You don’t win the league on October 21 and this is just one game in the season.

“We have big games ahead.”

Edinburgh come into the clash after snatching a late leveller at newly-promoted Dundee Wanderers on Tayside last weekend.

And Moodie has done his homework. His younger brother Ian missed the Wanderers clash through injury but was pitchside at Fettes College along with assistant coach David Reid to watch Grange.

And they also departed with video of the game for the coach to study ahead of the fixture which pushes off at 4pm.

Elsewhere, pointless Inverleith travel to Hillhead after their 4-0 home defeat to Dundee-based Grove Menzieshill last Saturday.

Graeme Campbell netted a treble for Hillhead in their 4-0 win over Uddingston which earned the Glasgow side their first points of the season.

Overall, you do not have to be a genius to work out where their problems lie.

The Purple Robes have shipped 35 goals in six games and scored only 11 and coach Stuart Neave and the squad desperately need a lift.