

Field hockey – Grange face champs in top clash



Josh Cairns clears the ball from Jamie Wong in a Division One clash between Bromac Kelburne and Edinburgh University. Picture Nigel Duncan Media

Grange face their toughest test to date this season when they clash head-in with the side which pipped them for the title on the final day of last season.

Bromac Kelburne come to the Capital as Grange place their unbeaten five-game unbeaten run on the line.

The game follows last weekend's 3-3 draw with Western Wildcats in Glasgow which took them to 13 points from five games.

Kelburne top the table also with 13 points from their five outings but they have a superior goal difference of plus 13 having netted 22 and lost nine.

Western are second on 13 points but with a goal difference of plus 11 while Grange are third also on 13 points and have a goal difference of eight.

The Edinburgh side have scored 14 and let in six and coach David Knipe has been concerned recently about the lack of conversions at the business end of the pitch.

His men must be razor-sharp at Fettes (push off 14.00pm) as chances could be few and far between.

Kelburne whipped newly-promoted Dundee Wanderers 6-1 on Tayside last Saturday and coach Gordon Shepherd was pleased with the response from his short-benched side who were missing five key men.

They are all back for this weekend and experienced Shepherd has guided his men to the top of the table.

He said: "It doesn't matter who is on top just now, it only matters at the end of the season."

At the other end of the table, bottom club Inverleith entertain sixth-placed Grove Menzieshill at Peffermill (16.00) looking for their first points of the season.

The have shipped 31 goals in five games so far and scored 11 and coach Stuart Neave is desperate to shore up his leaky defence.

Edinburgh University, who are fourth after their 5-1 home win over pointless Hillhead at Peffermill last week, travel to Dalnacraig to face Dundee Wanderers (14.00).

The students have won two of their four matches so far for seven points and Wanderers, who are eighth, have collected three points from five starts.