

## October 2021 – OKS Netball Match Report

As the evenings draw in, another OKS team has formed and taken to the court. Ten enthusiastic OKS netballers (2008 – 2013) have joined forces to take on the Go Mammoth league in Brixton on Tuesday nights. Since leaving University, we have all played in different leagues, but have yet to come together to represent the OKS. After the lifting of lockdown, we were determined to get back on the court – together this time – and see if we still had “it”!

Our first match, against a summer-of-dreams inspired team named “What would Grealish do?”, was a roaring success: we won 26-2. Sensational defending from Anna Gibson and Maya Kolade meant the opposition had nowhere to go. Dominance of the centre court from Jervis alumna Eliza Brett was reminiscent of her glory days down at Birley’s, whether it was on the netball court or the hockey pitch. The following week, we took on our next opponents and had more success – another big win saw Tilly Swan and Ella Gault enter the court as a tenacious attacking duo.

Thanks to the eagle-eyed India Dearlove, we knew that our next (and most recent) opponents would be the toughest yet. They had also had two significant victories – we were eager not to rest on our laurels. A breath-taking game saw the OKS edge in front early on, thanks to some stunning centre court play and cunning bounce passes from birthday girl Ella Walford and India Dearlove. Some OKS absences (due to work commitments) meant we were ably supported by some friends of OKS and managed to hold on to a 19-18 victory!

Inspired by the recent win, we are ready and raring to go for our next match. We are delighted to be sponsored by OKS this season and are so grateful for our new bibs. Whilst we are all secretly more competitive than we let on, the real joy of this team is that despite all having very different jobs, hours, and living arrangements, we know that we’ll get to see each other once a week and have a good old run around!



*Top Row L-R: Hattie Wilson (BR), Ella Walford (HH), Ella DH and Tash Irwin (Friends of OKS)*

*Front Row L-R: India Dearlove (HH), Anna Gibson (HH), Eliza Brett (JR)*

*Absent: Ella Gault (HH), Anna Coady (HH), Maya Kolade (HH), Tillie Kolade (HH)*