

Winning form continues for men's polo

After a thumping victory at the weekend York were hoping for more of the same when they hosted Newcastle on Wednesday. Ryan Jago's side started cautiously enough, a goal from newcomer Peter Dowsett cancelled out by one for visitors. They gained momentum after the restart though, Victor Amara having his shot saved before Jago found the net. York's confidence grew as they pulled ahead and after two goals in quick succession from Sam Timpany they seemed to settle into the game. Dowsett got his second after a good solo drive up the pool but Newcastle still looked threatening going forward, keeper Young Gawthorpe making some crucial saves to keep them at bay. Laurence McLellan Bastidas then found his way past the keeper after a long pass from Gawthorpe and York headed into the half time break with a 6 – 1 advantage.

The third quarter started in the same tone, Timpany winning the ball at the restart and Chris Ptaszynski-Neophytou unlucky to have his shot saved. Newcastle then seemed to recover a little and put some pressure on the home side's defence, forcing several free passes before Gawthorpe safely collected a bouncing shot. Newcastle were not prepared for the counterattack though and Rob Mason fired his first goal of the game past the keeper's hands. Timpany then added to his impressive scoring run with a superb backhand shot to surely put the game beyond the reach of their rivals. Mason was having a great game in the centre back position, defending well and in control. His clearance set up York's last attack of the quarter, a man down scored by Will Lawrence after an assist from Dowsett.

York still looked fresh as the final quarter started, chasing loose balls and following instructions from last year's captain Gawthorpe. Two backhand shots in quick succession from Jago hit the bar before Brandon Teo also narrowly missed the net. Both teams then got a lengthy respite as the referee admonished the visitors for time wasting. Lawrence then got his second goal of the game, his shot just sneaking past the keeper. York survived a late Newcastle surge that saw them score two goals in the last two minutes from counterattacks to seal what was overall a comfortable victory for UYSWC's men.

YORK – GAWTHORPE, TIMPANY, CHAPMAN, DOWSETT, MASON, JONES, LAWRENCE, TEO, BARBER-BANY, MCLELLAN BASTIDAS, JAGO (C), AMARA, PTASZYNSKI-NEOPHYTOU

MAN OF THE MATCH – Jack Jones and Sam Timpany