

# Rampant Lions make it hell for the Devils with a crushing defeat

**Lee Valley Lions 12  
Gosport Devils 0**  
(English National  
Ice Hockey League)

A LARGE crowd at Lea Bridge Road witnessed the Lee Valley Lions handing out a sound thrashing to the Gosport Devils in their penultimate home game of season.

The Lions were without influential captain, Scott Pollak so drafted in U18s player Chris Shrubsole as cover.

The team were able to ice three full lines and back-up netminder Andrew Boot started between the pipes.

The previous game between Gosport and Lee Valley had to be abandoned after two periods when one of the Devils' players was hurt and had to be taken to hospital.

The return encounter was therefore expected to be quite physical.

Lee Valley asserted themselves in the first minute with Michael Ranby finding the net, assisted by Stas Prokofiev and Michael Jacobs.

After a short break to repair some plexi glass, the hosts continued to dominate and scored two more quick goals, with Nick Breigoos

and Stas Prokofiev on target. Two more goals came from Michael Jacobs, which enabled the Lions to go into the first period break 5-0 up.

The second session opened as the first one finished, with the Lions on top.

Paul O'Neill scored his first of the season, followed by strikes from Nick Alley and Scott Beeson.

No goals were scored for over nine minutes in the final period, although four more arrived in the last ten minutes.

The first two came courtesy of Rob Courtman and James Scott-Joseph. A pair

of goals from Joe Berry, including a stunning blue-liner, sealed the 12-0 victory and a shut-out for young stopper Boot in the net.

This saw the Lions record their largest win and first shut out since the reformation of the team in the 2005/06 season.

The Lions will know be hoping this boost will inspire them when they entertain league-leaders Invicta Dynamos at 5.30pm on Saturday.

**Man of the match Joe Berry  
celebrates another Lions goal**

(Photo: Julianne Bonner)

