

Lions get sinking feeling

Lee Valley Lions 5

Solent Sharks 8

English Division One

LEE Valley Lions sunk to their second defeat since returning to the ice after a 10-year break against Solent Sharks.

After the Sharks players defied localised flooding to get to the ground as little as 15 minutes before the start, it was the Lions who struggled to keep their heads above water.

The Sharks' went 2-0 up, before the Lions moved out of first gear, with Darren Wakeling and Kevin Murphy scoring.

Sharks regained extended their lead to 5-2 in the second period, before the Lions replied with through Murphy and Richard Hodge.

But two power play goals from the Sharks' Greg Wyatt, meant Sharks were cruising. Murphy still managed to complete his hat-trick after 40 minutes, while replacement goalkeeper George Alley faced 14 shots but let in only one power play.

Lions' captain Darren Wakeling said: "We have a strong squad who can skate, pass and can play the game. We're not out there to be the league's whipping boys. We want to prove people wrong and we will do that."

LIONS MAN OF THE MATCH: Kevin Murphy. Hat-trick.

LIONS: Nubert, Murphy, Whitney, Sampson, Gomes, Courtney, Bellamy, Beeson, Murphy, Hodge, Abdullah, Braithwaite, O'Neill, Swaine, Goddard, Coyston, Osborne, Wakeling, Alley, Scott-Joseph, Davis.