



# AGSB SPORT TERM REVIEW



**ISSUE 11**

**SPRING TERM 2025**

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AGSB

8

REGIONAL FINALS

OVER

260

FIXTURES ACROSS  
ALL SPORTS

# Barcelona Football Tour 2025

by Mr Irlam



On the afternoon of our arrival, we headed to the beach to catch some Spanish sun and play a friendly but competitive game of beach football. That evening we had a delicious dinner before getting an early night sleep as we knew the fun we had awaiting us in the upcoming days.

Monday morning was the squad's first chance to make an impression on the coaches as we had a two-hour training session at Camp de futbol Canyars. After lunch, an exciting visit to the Nou Camp, where we learnt about FC Barcelona's history in the immersive tour. The team could purchase merchandise from the official store and view construction of the new stadium. The day ended with an intense quiz testing our knowledge on what we had learnt, or not!

An exciting padel tournament had us wake early; well done to Rourke and Blundell for beating Randall and an extremely disappointed Mr Cammack in the final, which saw them presented with Barcelona scarves at the awards evening. Now, time to prepare for our first match against Castelldefels. After an intensive warm-up, the players were ready. The Spanish side started well, dominating possession, but we soon matched them. After good chances created and immense defending from Cross, the first half ended scoreless, not reflecting the entertainment. After substitutions, AGBS started fast with clever balls in behind from Okeyke and roaring passion from Roden, Diver and Kunawics; but still no breakthrough. In the final 15 minutes Castelldefeles showed stamina scoring three goals and ended the game with a harsh 3-0 result.

Due to tired bodies, we had an extended lie-in on Wednesday before heading into Barcelona for a guided tour led by our good friend Alàn. This was a chance to explore Barcelona's history and fascinating architecture. There were markets, mini concerts and more going on showing the friendly society. Now time for our second fixture against Bugues; we knew we had to raise our game. We started with an advantage; bringing the British rain along with us. Dominating the first half, we entered half time with a 5-1 lead thanks to braces from Blundel and Stephens and a goal from Wardak. Strong words of wisdom from Mr Smyth and Mr Bailey sent the team out for an equally impressive second half. A brace each from Ohimoyan and Malik (including a goal later awarded 'goal of the tour'), and goals from Ridley and goalkeeper Rangaraju with a striker's finish, completed a satisfying 11-2 scoreline. The Merseyside derby dominated the evening, with a very happy Foreman!

On a sunny final day, it was back to the beach to play a 5-a-side tournament before preparations for matchday 3 vs Ciudad Cooperative CF. We walked out the tunnel with heads held high and started fast through Ibrahim winning a penalty converted by Malik. CCCF responded with 2 goals before half time. We came out fast, but the opposition scored, against the run of play, from a set piece. We matched that, scoring from a corner. In the final 10 minutes, CCCF finished the game off, making it 4-2 to the home side. Despite Wells' work rate down the line sadly we could not score, ending the match in defeat. We ended the trip with the celebratory presentation evening and meal in a local restaurant where everyone reflected on what was a perfect trip.

Special honours go to Bobin, Wells, Malik and Okeyke for their respective awards and a special mention to Okeyke for an Oscars-style acceptance speech!

Thank you so much for an amazing trip which could not be made possible without the incredible teachers: Mr Cammack, Mr Smyth and Mr Bailey.



# BADMINTON

## U13

This year we are representing the north-west beating MGS in the semi-finals however we played our own B team in the finals as they beat MGS 's A team highlighting how strong badminton is in AGSB thanks to weekly sessions. In the near future, we hope to go forward and win the national finals as we were close to last year.

Badminton at AGSB is top quality with brilliant courts to accompany our weekly sessions. This is reflected how we went to national finals and coming 5th in 2 years a row. In addition, we came second in the school magazines. These results have been due to staff commitments and a brilliant coach. Altogether badminton at AGSB has been great .

Siri Eldi

## U16

This year the U16 badminton team have once again triumphed once again on the county stage placing 2nd and 3rd losing by a single game in the finals, coming in the top three for two consecutive years in a row which has not only shown the strength of the players however also the dedication towards the sport. It has not only been a competitive squad however has also been a community where we have seen the development of many players exceeding their own expectations, in terms of their abilities and we've also seen the nurturing nature from some senior players to the upcoming players in the lower years. Overall, the year has been perceived as a success by many winning many fixtures throughout the course of the season.

Yeshwin Musunuri



# HOCKEY

This season has been eventful to say the least. We've had some incredible wins and some tough losses across all age groups. Several players within the teams showed significant growth in their individual skills in both outdoor and indoor. Whether it was improving stickhandling, passing accuracy, or tackling, players made noticeable strides.

The indoor hockey season was a challenging yet valuable experience for the U16 & U18 teams. While the results didn't always reflect the hard work and effort put in, the season offered many lessons in resilience, teamwork, and growth. It was a season marked by tough competition and moments of adversity, but also by the team's determination to push through difficult times.

All teams had several standout wins this season, especially against strong rivals. These victories showcased their ability to execute under pressure, with players stepping up in key moments. The team's ability to come together in these wins demonstrated growth in both skill and confidence.

This season was a step forward for field hockey and understanding. There were moments of brilliance, but also areas to work on. With a strong foundation in place and a committed group of players, the future looks bright. The teams should be proud of their progress, and with continued effort and focus, they'll be ready to take their game to the next level. We will miss the seniors who are leaving this year but wish them well in their future.

Alex Lurkin



# FOOTBALL

This year's Football teams continue to progress in the Greater Manchester Cup. The year 9 and 10 squads have progressed into the Semi-Finals. The year 9s will face St Ambrose and the year 10s will play BTH.



# OLD BOYS' FIXTURES

This year's old boys' fixtures were a huge success. AGSB hosted Hockey, Football and Rugby fixtures vs recent school leavers.



The Hockey fixture kicked off at 13.30 and the school ran out winner's 4-2 MOTM – T Small

At 14.30 the Football and Rugby fixtures kicked off and once again the school came away victorious in both fixtures. The 1<sup>st</sup> XI won 3-2 MOTM – S Hewitt the 1<sup>st</sup> XV won 35-33 MOTM – F Doyle. For the first time in AGSB history the school took all the wins.



# SENIOR SPORTS AWARDS

After the old boys' fixtures in the evening, we hosted our annual Senior Sports Awards Evening. The night was a great success with over 120 pupils, parents, staff and old boys attending the event.



Half Colour and Full Colour ties were awarded along with the schools' major sports trophies. The winners were as follows, AGSB Rackets Award - , The Les Cope Memorial Trophy for Cricket – Rohan P, The Rea Trophy for Hockey – Will J, The Jon Hughes Trophy for Outstanding Contribution to Sport – Fin D, The JW Brown Trophy for Rugby – Fin S, JR Memorial Trophy for Football – Charlie S, The Esprit du Corps Football – Aaron L, The Esprit du Corps Rugby – Barney M, The Roy Coleman Team of the year – Senior Tennis – Seb M.

The Dunkerly Cup (Victor Ludorum) is the most prestigious award of the evening, the nominations for this award were, Ben C, Will J, Anoop J and Fin S. All would have been worthy winners, but the winner of the Dunkerly Cup 2025 was Will J.



# KHO-KHO

On Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April, AGSB's Kho-Kho Society, in collaboration with HSJS brought to AGSB the 2025 Kho- Kho Exhibition Match, the first since the inaugural match 2 years ago. Overseeing the action was a huge crowd who enjoyed 4 nerve-wracking games of pure entertainment and exhilarating action.

Kho-Kho is an intense, adrenaline-pumping ancient Indian sport, similar to tag but played at lightning pace under strict time conditions, ultimately making for end - to - end entertainment.

Recently Kho has broken out on the world stage with the sport's first world cup being held earlier this year with over 20 nations participating. On the back of the success of the world cup there has even been talk about Kho being introduced as an Olympic event in the future illustrating its rapid ascent to prominence and popularity, not just in India, but across the globe.

Kho has thrived here in Trafford and especially at AGSB over the last 3 years as the AGSB Kho-Kho society has been run every Wednesday lunchtime. Outside of school, our local team comprising students from schools across Trafford have taken part in National University competitions and been regional champions for 3 consecutive years and national champions. With the recent Kho Premier league being launched, many players from AGSB have shone at this high level, with many also gearing up to trial for the England Kho Kho team, with the aim to play at the global level.

We wanted to showcase the tremendous Kho-Kho athletes we have here at AGSB to the rest of the school community in an unforgettable Kho-Kho exhibition match. So we saw AGSB's best go head-to-head in a fiery display of skill and determination in front of a huge crowd of students and staff, demonstrating how far Kho-Kho society has come since its induction just a few years ago.

Kho-Kho involves 2 major roles, chasers and runners. All but one of the chasers squat in the central lane, with one active chaser tasked with tagging a runner, the squatting chasers can only change roles by receiving a 'Kho' from the active chaser. The objective is simple: the runners must evade the chasers, while the chasers must tag as many runners as possible, accumulating points in the process.

First up we had our emerging talent in the first of four breathtaking games, and it didn't disappoint: The black team went head to head against the white team with a packed balcony watching the action unfold. In the first innings the white team's chasers but up a strong performance and despite the black team's best efforts the underdogs triumphed 8 - 2.5. Both sets of players put up strong performances and provided an engaging contest to start off the Exhibition match.

Moving onto the main event with 3 games to be played Kho-Kho society's 18 best players lined up and after an intense 3 minutes, the chasing black team went 10 points up, the white team cut it close scoring 9, but just missed out on winning the first game.

With momentum in hand the black team went on to dominate the next game winning 12-6.5, however the exhibition match culminated in late drama as the white team surged back to win the final game 9-5 in another close encounter.

Both teams demonstrated immense quality to take the competition down to the final hurdle, and there were several impressive performances but for this year's exhibition match our star chaser had to be Madhav A, and our star runner Arjun A for their exceptionally strong performances. A special thank you as well to Ameya Desai, a former AGSB student who has been playing Kho at the highest level, for refereeing all 4 games on Wednesday. **Piyush K**



# TABLE TENNIS

Our AGSB U13 table tennis team, consisting of Orlando Chow, Andrey Kim, Regan Tang, and Haziq Qureshi, had an incredible journey. We first qualified in the county-wide school competition, where we proudly secured first place. This victory propelled us into the regional finals, where we triumphed once again, finishing first. Our team then advanced to the national semi-finals, where we performed well and took second place. This impressive result earned us a spot in the national finals, where we will compete as one of the top four schools in England. The national finals have yet to come, but our team's progress so far has been a remarkable achievement. This success is likely unique, as no one could recall a similar achievement in the entire history of AGSB. Our success would not have been possible without the guidance of our outstanding coach, Brian Kean, whose dedication, commitment, and attitude remain unparalleled. The whole team is immensely grateful for his invaluable support throughout our journey.

Andrey Kim

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# TENNIS

Our U18 Winter League team once again reached the regional finals up in Sunderland. The standard was exceptional and AGSB progressed to the final after defeating a strong Yarm side 12-0. This was truly an outstanding performance.

In the final we played Hutchenson School Unfortunately, AGSB came out second best with many tight matches. AGSB were awarded the runners up medals in the North Finals. Each pupil gave their all and were a credit to themselves and the school.



# SPORT FOR ALL CAMPAIGN - UPDATE

Phase 3 is now complete, with our second astro cricket wicket being laid. This now gives us 3 cricket pitches at home, increasing the provision we can offer.

Our new long jump pit has also been completed to the highest specification. Our athletics program will start after Easter. The facility is impressive and athletics at AGSB will only grow in strength as a result of the new pit.



## RUGBY SEVENS

The sevens season has been a strong one this year, with each age group attending at least 3 tournaments. On each occasion an AGSB team reached a final.

The 1st VII, reached the plate final in both the County and Birkenhead 7s, unfortunately losing narrowly on both occasions. The highlight for the year 10s was reaching the final of the AKS 7s coming away runners up. The year 9 and 8 sides reached the plate finals in the County 7s. Finally, the year 7s won some silverware at the Wirral 7s being victorious in the plate final.

Well done to all those that represented the school you did yourselves and the school proud.



# WHATS COMING UP!

There is still plenty of sport to get excited about in the summer term. We welcome the start of our Cricket season, where we hope our U14 and U15 cricket teams defend their county titles.

The U15s travel to Sedbergh in late April in the National Knockout.

The U13 Cricket tour of the Midlands goes ahead on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> June and returning on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> June.

We also have English School Athletics competitions for our Junior and Inter boys, along with Trafford meets in every age group.

The annual golf day takes place on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> June. The golf day is open to pupils, parents and friends of AGSB and if you'd like to attend please contact me [smeakin@agsb.co.uk](mailto:smeakin@agsb.co.uk)

I'm sure we have another successful term of sport ahead of us and I'm looking forward to watching AGSB pupils give their all on the sports field.

