

## **Barons Side-Step Sherwood 3-0**

The Barons visited Sandy Spring on October 6<sup>th</sup> to meet Sherwood High, a match that saw the Warriors' offense launch deep into Barons real estate to fire the first shot of the match. After a few edgy minutes, the Barons found their rhythm and went to work with geometric precision to string together passes along lines, tangents, and arcs. One Barons build-up after another ended in near-misses by Eliza Doll, Vic Gersh, and Alex Doll. But then, 25 minutes into the half, Alex Doll collected a loose ball in Warrior terrain, glided with it to the left corner, and then unleashed a surgical salvo along the goal line to Hannah Levin who tapped the ball into the net — a tap, it should be noted, that required the utmost finesse to convert. For the rest of the half, it was just that only, lonely, near-Olney, goal that kept the scoreboard alight.

If the match were theatre, Act II brought more of what one could argue was a clash of styles: a tricky Warrior defense against a relentless Baron offense. Like a finely engineered Swiss watch, the Warrior back line clicked at the right moments – 14 to be exact -- to catch Barons attackers offside. But no trap is perfect: On one Barons drive, Alex Doll threaded a pass through a needle to Vic Gersh who keenly first-touched the ball to set up a shot that flared the net. The final score came minutes later when defender Kara Klontz sent a long ball to midfielder Saga Melander who collected the sphere before igniting a blazing footrace against a Warrior defender; somehow, despite the defender pressing her every inch, Melander triggered a thunderous strike into the upper echelons of the net from a distance that almost required a telescope to *see* the net.

Rounding out the Baron cast in this well-executed match were goalies Sasha Konownitzine and Angela White; defenders Julia Hardgrove, Zoe Mesirow, Liz Ward, and Tess Hanniffee; midfielders Elena Muller, Caroline Khanna, Rebecca Wenker, and Nicole Parina; and forwards Julia Hooks, Alix Emden, and Zoe Thorpe. In all, while B-CC took 19 shots (7 on goal) and registered 5 saves, the Warriors tallied 10 shots (5 on goal). Each team launched three corners.

By Karl C. Klontz