

Match Reports Saturday 31st March 2018

"SWANS DOWNED DESERVEDLY BY THE HAMMERS"

HAMWORTHY UTD RES 6 SWANAGE TOWN & HERSTON 1



With every other local game called off, a large crowd of 102 attended the County Ground to see probably the Hammers Reserves best performance of the season. They welcomed a Swanage side who had not suffered a defeat since early January. The Hammers themselves had not got a positive result for over a month so it looked a tough ask. Both sides introduced some under 18's and Reserve players as a few key players were absent.

Most noticeable for United were Captain Meldrum, Randall & Coombs, together with Lindsay & Vice Captain Basing who were suspended. Swanage were without Best, Rose or Harrop and Mullins. Hamworthy set up in a 3-5-2 with Swanage opting for a 4-4-2. The opening 10 minutes were hard fought with the returning Jamie Kay receiving a yellow card for a late tackle. In this period neither keeper had anything to do apart from collect the odd loose ball as neither team could hold on to it, but 3 minute later the game sprung into life. Kyle Spyers latched onto a through ball before crossing it to the back post, and with a slice of fortune it ended up in the top corner. This killed any momentum from Swanage with Hamworthy now on the front foot and looking for a second. The Swans broke up play a few times and looked for a long ball into Cameron Beard who missed a few half chances. The Hamworthy defence stood firm, and Swanage struggled to create any real opening. In the 29th minute, following some good work down the right between Rose & Swann the ball found its way into Squire. He was then brought down 40 yards from goal. Kay played a delicate ball into Sam Carter for the United's top scorer to grab the Hammers second goal of the game and his 25th of the season by slotting under the rushing keeper. In the next few minutes Swanage applied some pressure with some long throws into Tommy Beard. He swivelled on one but put his shot over the bar from 6 yards. This would be punished minutes later as Spyers was again released down the left from a good ball from Squire. Spyers took on his man and laid it on a plate for Josh Rose who needed two bites at the cherry before finally putting the ball in. Swanage looked stunned and



would be even more so 3 minutes later. Kay this time found Kyle Spyers free on the left and bursting forward. He again beat his man and slammed the ball into the net just inside the post giving the keeper no chance, HT 4-0. Hamworthy enjoyed a great start to the second period as Richard Galeg who had been busy all afternoon got his reward. Swann played him through 1 on 1 for him to take a touch, and score to make it 5-0. Swanage now changed formation looking to find some way past the resilient hammers defence. A



few minutes later Carter was taken off with young forward Ben Lake making his first appearance of the season as a lone striker. Hamworthy had switched to a 4-3-3 hoping for a clean sheet. This was not to be. as Beard found himself through 1 on 1 and slipped the ball under Rob Beck in the 61st minute. United's Shane Jackson, who had been solid all day was injured, and had to go off. Nick Patrick & Morgan Oliver were introduced with 25 minutes to go. Oliver had a good chance to make it 6, but he headed a Rose cross wide. Swanage then had two further chances which were saved well by Beck. In the 81st minute Lake who had been doing a lot of closing, won the ball back on the half way line. He played it into Swann who drove forward and played a perfectly weighted ball to Nick Patrick who dinked the keeper to make it 6.

Photos Courtesy of Steve Harris – steve@bdfaimages.co.uk



ALL other scheduled League games were POSTPONED due to waterlogged pitches