



# DPL – NEWSLETTER - 29



**Match Reports Saturday 24th February 2018**

## **"MERLEY DOWN WESTLANDS"**

### **MERLEY COBHAM SPORTS 2 WESTLAND SPORTS 0**



With leaders Hamworthy Rec in cup action Westland Sports had the chance to go top should they manage to overcome this tricky looking match at Merley. And so, it proved for the men from Somerset as the home side won for the 2<sup>nd</sup> week running mainly due to their 1<sup>st</sup> half showing. The hosts came out of the blocks quickly as they caused all the problems in the early exchanges with Matt Groves, Ben Satterley

and Asa Phillips all seeing chances go begging. Dan Edwards finally broke the deadlock on the half hour, following in on a spilled free kick to put the hosts in front. Phillips almost doubled the lead on 40 mins when his shot from the right-hand side, virtually rolled along the crossbar and away. However, he didn't have to wait long to get his goal as he was put clear through by Lee Wilkins just seconds later and he made no mistake this time as he finished superbly to double the hosts advantage, HT 2-0. Westlands came out for the second half seemingly with clear intentions to get back into the game and for the first 10-15 mins had the better of the play. However just as they had done the previous week, Merley rode out the storm and got their grip back on the game with a tireless display, competing for every ball and always being on their toes and looking to get forward at every opportunity. Merley saw out the game confidently for their second consecutive clean sheet and another valuable 3 points to see them climb to third in the table and dent Westlands title aspirations.

*[Photos courtesy of steve@bdfaimages.co.uk](mailto:photos@bdfaimages.co.uk)*



## **"BEES DO NOT LIKE THE TASTE OF TANGERINES"**

### **BRIDPORT RES 0 GILLINGHAM TOWN 4**

Bridport started positively at a bright, yet cold St Marys Field, Gillingham playing against a keen breeze struggled to get a foothold in the game especially in the first fifteen minutes. However, they survived the home sides early pressure and started to have more influence in the game as the half progressed moving the ball well on a difficult pitch. They were eventually rewarded in the 33rd minute when a sublime pass from Macauley Biddle found Elliot Bevis in space, he rounded the keeper and slotted the ball into the empty net. The lead was doubled with the last move of the first half as another good Gillingham through ball cut open the static Bridport defence, the ball was crossed in only for Bevis to head

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against the bar, with the ball bouncing down onto the lone and Buddy O Shea followed up to head it in to the net, HT 0-2. The second half followed a similar pattern as the 1st with Gillingham in total control but unable to add to their tally. To the hosts credit they needed to change things, and a flurry of late substitutions gave Bridport more attacking options, but these were dealt with well by the visitor's defence, and the game ended with the first save that Jamie Beale in the Gillingham goal had to make all day, to keep Bridport out and give Gillingham their clean sheet and the victory they fully deserved.

### **"SWANS WIN ROYALLY AGAINST THE ROYALS"**

#### **SWANAGE TOWN & H 3 BLANDFORD UTD 0**



Swanage eased to a comprehensive 3-0 win at Day's Park against Blandford United, the hosts were fielding a depleted side but settled well and deservedly took the lead through Tommy Beard after just 13 minutes. Top scorer and brother Cameron doubled the lead on 18 minutes with a fine finish. The visitors went close on a couple occasions as did the Swan's Elliot Parslow whose long-range shot went narrowly wide

of the mark, HT 2-0. The hosts continued to enjoy the lion's share of the second half against the plucky Royals and Tommy Beard sealed the win with his second goal of the game following good work from brother Cameron again. All in all, a pleasing statistic was the second consecutive clean sheet and the attitude of the team.

*[Photo courtesy of ST&HFC](#)*

### **"ROCKIES DESERVEDLY BEAT BALTI"**

#### **SHAFTESBURY RES 2 BALTI SPORTS 0**

Shaftesbury started the game on top and after 20 mins they took the lead through Lee Gale who had his initial shot parried only to be the first to react and tap the rebound home to give the hosts a deserved lead. The remainder of the half was pretty mundane from both sides until the 45th min when Shaftesbury were awarded a free kick just outside the area, the resulting free kick was shot over by Gale, HT 1-0. After the break Shaftesbury carried on as they had finished the first half being on top as the visitors offered little in response as their good early season form looks a distant memory away at this present time. On 70 minutes a Charlie Browne volley goes wide for the hosts. At only 1-0 the visitors were always capable of getting back into the game and so nearly got an equaliser with 5 minutes to go, however home custodian, Chris Fitzpatrick pulled off a brilliant save to deny the visitors. 2 minutes later and the points were safe when the home sides Callum Bent cut inside and unleashed a fierce shot from fully 25yards that hit the post and went in to double the Rockies advantage and secure the richly deserved win.

### **"MERE DIG DEEP TO OVERCOME THE ZEBRAS"**

#### **SHERBORNE TOWN RES 1 MERE TOWN 2**

This DPL fixture brought together Sherborne who were battling away 2nd from bottom in the table and Mere Town, who after a bright start to their season were now in a solid mid-DORSET PREMIER FOOTBALL LEAGUE – NEWSLETTER 29

table position. Both sides had had their squad issues meaning they could only name one player each on the bench, how this lack of subs would play a part in the latter stages of this competitive contest. The first half started quite evenly with each side probing the opposition's half without ever really troubling the keepers. As the half continued Mere saw more of the ball and at times had Sherborne camped in their own half with a succession of corners and free kicks with Mere sending balls into the home side's box. Again, they never troubled Sherborne whose keeper came and claimed confidently or were cleared efficiently by the home team's defence, HT 0-0. The second half was a very different affair, both sides started brightly but it was the visitors who scored the opening goal after 55 minutes. Top scorer, Joe Paterson, found himself with the ball at his feet on the edge of the box, from where he dribbled his way through several Sherborne defenders to slot the ball home. However, the home side were not about to roll over and one minute later, straight from the re-start, they earnt a free kick in a dangerous position 20 yards from goal. Shane Pulling stepped up and struck the ball straight into the Mere wall, but it found its way back to Pulling to shoot once more with a wicked deflection taking it past the stranded Tommy Read in goal for Mere and restore parity. This immediate equaliser rattled the away side and gave Sherborne something to build on. Charles Parry saw red with a second yellow card as Mere were reduced to 10 men. Despite this Mere re-grouped and continued to press with patience looking for the winner. The visitors soon were down to 9 men as their only Substitute hobbled off, to make matters worse they were soon down to 8 players as Jordan Shorrocks was sent to the sin bin, reducing Mere to 8 men for the rest of the game. It then became a case of whether the visitors could hold on to the point they had at 1-1. However, Mere were not satisfied with one point and whilst defending in numbers when needed, looked to keep the ball in Sherborne's half rather than sitting deep and inviting Sherborne to attack. In fact, Mere forced a few corners and were working tirelessly as a group to keep the ball when in the 89th minute it found its way once more to Joe Paterson. With a piece of individual brilliance Paterson weaved his way in and out of the Sherborne defenders until he finally got his shot off to rifle home the winner.

### ***"STURMINSTER STUN THE HAMMERS"***

#### **STURMINSTER NEWTON 5 HAMWORTHY UTD RES 2**



Sturminster Newton managed to pick up a valuable Home win and 3pts from this frantic fixture on a chilly afternoon and Barnett's Field. The game started at a fast pace, with both sides creating chances in the opening minutes. Jamie Danoris found himself through on goal after 4 minutes, but a great save from the Hamworthy Goalkeeper kept the scores level. With 6 minutes on the clock, a visitors Fullback was

given too much time to pick out a wonderful diagonal pass, which Sam Carter duly dispatched into the Stur goal to give the Hammers the lead. 2 minutes later and it was 2-0, this time it was Josh Rose, on the edge of the home box, with an overhead kick that flew past Sam Stroud in the Sturminster goal a stunning finish, that was as good as it got for the visitors as Sturminster Newton responded well, and only took until the 12th minute to get back into the game, when Niall Woollard reduced the arrears with a tidy finish. Both sides were creating chances but in the 25th minute the scores were back level, with Jamie

Danoris finishing a good move off. 2 minutes before half time and the hosts took the lead, with Niall Woollard scored his 3rd goal in 2 games to edge the hosts in front, HT 3-2. The second half started in a similar vein, with both sides competing for every ball, the next goal would prove critical in the game that could have gone either way. And it took until the 80th minute for the goal to come, with Stur's Jamie Danoris chasing down a back pass, which the Hamworthy Keeper fired straight at Danoris with the ball flying into the goal for 4-2. 4 minutes later Danoris completed his hat trick, going through on goal, rounding the keeper and slotting into the empty net for 5-2. A very competitive game between the two sides, with Sturminster Newton coming out on top.

*[Photo courtesy of SNUFC](#)*

### **"RANGERS WIN AT THE 15<sup>TH</sup> TIME OF ASKING"**

#### **WAREHAM RANGERS 1 PARLEY SPORTS 0**

Wareham won their 1<sup>st</sup> League match in 15 attempts and in doing so avenged an earlier 6-0 drubbing by their opponents at their place earlier in the season. Wareham started the game well and had multiple chances which were not taken from the forwards despite some great link up play. Parley had some good spells of possession but did not really test the Wareham centre half Rich Parsons who was stand in keeper due to the injury and unavailability of a recognised keeper. Wareham got a deserved breakthrough mid-way through the first half with a good cross converted by Wareham striker Aaron Merredew. Wareham went into half time 1-0 in front. Into the second half and Wareham again had chances to extend the lead but they were not taken and made for an interesting finish with Parley applying mounting pressure. Wareham held out and got their deserved 3 points with ALL players involved putting in a solid performance.



#### **DPL LEAGUE CUP QUARTER FINAL**

### **"HOLT PAY THE PENALTY AS REC PROGRESS"**

#### **HOLT UNITED 2 HAMWORTHY REC 2 – AET – REC win 4-1 on penalties**

Rec made it through to the cup semi-finals, but only just! This was always going to be a tight encounter with old rivals Holt and so it turned out. It was a game of little quality from both sides, but plenty of excitement for the spectators on a freezing cold afternoon. Holt started the livelier and Rec keeper Sam Jones pulled off two good saves from dangerous crosses into the box. But Rec, slowly got themselves into the game and a free-kick on the edge of the area gave them their first real chance, with Chris Long firing over the bar. Harry Stokes then had a couple of chances but shot weakly at the keeper and then turned and shot across the face of goal and wide. Just when it looked like Rec had done enough to be level at half-time Holt were awarded a penalty, However Nathan Saxby's low effort went wide, how costly would this miss prove, HT 0-0. Rec started the second period livelier and a dangerous cross from Brad Hill went begging, before Lewis Proudley's free-kick into the box eluded Long. But on 56 minutes Holt went in front. An almighty scramble on the visitor's goal-line ended with the ball in the net for 1-0, with Mike Haskell credited with the final touch, this lead only lasted a couple of minutes Rec were awarded a somewhat

fortunate penalty when the ball struck a hand of a Holt player in the box, up stepped Chris Long to convert and restore parity. This equaliser spurred the visitors on and after Pete Pritchard had seen his goal bound header turned away by the Holt Keeper Rec went in front on 75 minutes in bizarre circumstances. Brad Hill chased an unlikely long ball downfield and managed to drill the ball low into the box resulting in the Holt defender's clearance hitting a teammate and the ball somehow rebounding into the net for 1-2. Rec were happy to see out the last 15 minutes and did so successfully until the very last minute when keeper Sam Jones was penalised for a push on Haskell in the area and this time Holt made no mistake from the spot with Charlie Gadjic holding his nerve to score, FT 2-2. Both sides were out on their feet in extra-time, with few chances created and a penalty shoot-out always looking likely and so it was as the game needed to be settled by penalties. Sam Jones was the Rec hero with two great saves from Holt's three penalties, Callum Charlton, Brad Hill, Dan Manuel and Luke Geddes all kept their nerve to send Rec to the semi-finals after a 4-1 win in the shoot-out.



### **DPL LEAGUE CUP SEMI FINALS**



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Ties to be played MARCH 17<sup>th</sup>, 2018

- Kick Off 2.30pm ET & Pens if Required

