



# DPL – NEWSLETTER - 6



## Match Reports Mid-week 29th & 30th August 2017

### 29th AUGUST 2017

#### ***"SWANS WIN AT MERLEY TO GO BACK TOP OF THE TABLE"***

#### **MERLEY CS 0 SWANAGE TOWN & HERSTON 2**



With two of the leagues big hitters on show, this was always going to be a tough game. Swanage were out of the blocks quickly and had Merley on the ropes during the first few minutes. Their efforts were rewarded with an early goal when they took the lead on 6 minutes, as Merley didn't deal with a long throw, which was flicked on and stabbed home from close range by Swanage's

Rowan Robinson. On 15 minutes the Swans were dealt a major blow when current League top scorer Cameron Beard had to go to hospital after a clash of heads. Merley fought back and should have levelled on 20 mins when Josh Pickering fired just over from outside the box. But just two mins later, Swanage made it 2-0 with almost a carbon copy of their first goal, this time the visitors Captain Nat Scott scoring. Merley again went close with Pickering heading just wide from close range on 28 mins, and then some nice link up play between Matt Groves and Asa Phillips saw the Swanage keeper save well from Phillips' drilled shot. The remainder of the half was battled out in midfield without either side getting any real chances. HT 0-2. Merley came out from the break much stronger and were creating more chances and dealing with the Swanage attack much better. Despite this, they were unable to beat the solid Swanage keeper. Jack Mills' free kick was well saved on the hour mark. Teasing crosses were handled well and when Asa Phillips broke through in the 89th min, the keeper was quickly down to block his attempted side foot shot. All said, a great game between two very good footballing sides, with Swanage coming out on top thanks to their clinical finishing.

#### ***"RECREATION WIN THE BATTLE OF THE HAMWORTHYS"***

#### **HAMWORTHY UTD RES 0 HAMWORTHY RECREATION 3**

In the end this was a comfortable win for Rec, but it was far from easy at the start. The hosts had several good chances in the first half, which saw keeper Sam Jones produce some fine saves to keep Rec in it. Hammers then had two players "sin-binned" and another sent off for 2 bookable offences, which meant the hosts played all the second period with 10 men. The final third saw Rec stamp some authority on the game and claim the points. Jones was in early action for Rec, first pushing away a dangerous header, and then turning a low drive round the post, before Rikki Walden made a timely tackle as Hammers threatened. But mid-way through the half, after barely creating a

chance, Rec were in front. Callum Charlton was bundled over from behind when going for a header and the ref pointed to the spot. Richie Sands stepped up to convert the spot kick to make it 0-1. The Hammers pushed forward and Walden, again, made a vital clearance, off the line, before a rising shot went just over the Rec bar. Just before the break the hosts were reduced to 10 men, thanks to a second yellow card. HT 0-1. Ash Boyt saw his long-range effort well saved and he then set up Chris Long who ran in on goal but fired wide. On 63 minutes Rec claimed the vital second goal. Fine work by Dave Wrixton set up Chris Long to crash in his shot off the bar, for 0-2. Rec were now playing some neat, controlled football and could have added further to the lead. Harry Stokes pulled the ball back to Boyt, only for his shot to be blocked and Marc Fairbrother delivered a great cross from the right from which Stokes tuned and shot past the post. Ten minutes from time it was three courtesy of another penalty, given for handball, spotted at distance by the referee, Chris Long confidently converted to complete the scoring. There was still time for substitute Luke Geddes, shooting from distance only to see his effort crash against the bar and bounce down with the ball appearing to cross the line, only to be ruled that it had not. FT 0-3.

### ***"ROYALS PICK UP A DESERVED WIN ON THE ROAD AT PARLEY"***

#### **PARLEY SPORTS 2 BLANDFORD UTD 3**

Blandford deserved this win at a faltering Parley Sports who have struggled to find any consistent form so far this season. The visitors showed more desire and responded positively after their defeat at the week end. Dan Hiscock rattled the hosts bar with his effort on 24 mins. With 35 minutes on the clock the hosts took the lead when Josh Moody collected the ball he then went on a mazy 65yard run before crossing for Ben Bosley to knock home 1-0. Blandford got themselves level on the stroke of half time when Dan Voter headed the equaliser 1-1. Into the 32<sup>nd</sup> half and many felt the next goal would prove crucial and on 50 minutes it fell to the visitors who edged in front courtesy of Bradley Pikes volleyed effort. Paul Ford added the Royals 3<sup>rd</sup> in the 80<sup>th</sup> minute only for Parley to reduce the arrears with a Josh Moody header on 83 minutes following Bosleys well delivered cross. Try as they did the hosts couldn't find an equaliser as Blandford held on to claim 3 well-earned points.

### ***"SPORTS WIN A THRILLER AT IMPROVING MILBORNE"***

#### **MILBORNE PORT 2 DORCHESTER SPORTS 3**

A Jamie Symes 90th minute free kick was enough to win a thrilling game at Milborne Port for Sports in a game that had everything, Sports started slowly and were second best to everything and the home side should have been in front but the woodwork on 2 occasions saved Sports from falling behind early on, but things were to get worse for the away side on 15 minutes when a sloppy pass from keeper Sami Turner allowed there striker to nip in but was brought down by Dan Peart, leaving the ref with no option but to show Peart a red card, Sports had to regroup but the home sides pressure was just too much and they took a deserved lead on 20 minutes when a 20 yard shot from Johnny Harvey found the bottom corner, The away settled after this and started to grow into the game and when a Symes shot was only parried into the feet of Jamie Rawlings he made no mistake from close range to make it 1-1 on 35 minutes, Sports were not finished there as before the break they took the lead when Symes was pushed off the

ball in the Milborne box, with the referee pointing to the spot, Jamie Symes scored to make it 2-1 at the break. Sports ten men worked hard second half in a game that was now end to end but the defensive duo of Jason Read and Cormac Lochrie were like a solid wall, but on 72 minutes the Milborne Port pressure was again too much as Lochrie made his only mistake of the night by bringing down Macaulay Biddle in the box and the Milborne skipper made no mistake from the spot to make it 2-2, Turner then made a great save from a late free kick to deny Port the lead again as darkness set saving low to his left, Sports had no legs left but the character showed through again as Symes was fouled on the edge of the box and the captain stepped up and struck the free kick into the bottom corner to send the away dugout into mayhem and travel back to Dorset with 3 vital points. As for Milborne, surely their 1<sup>st</sup> win is just around the corner, they played very well in this match, but for the woodwork (x2) things could have been different.

### ***"GILLINGHAMS FINE FORM CONTINUES WITH ANOTHER WIN"***

#### **GILLINGHAM TOWN 4 SHERBORNE TOWN RES 0**

This game saw the Gills attempting to continue their run of good form after convincing victories over Mere Town and Blandford Utd. Once again the Gills started in confident mood and Elliot Bevis went close in the very first minute when he rounded Sherborne keeper Josh Lucas, but a covering defender cleared the ball off the line. The Gills were looking the better team and they opened the scoring after 12 minutes. A fierce Harry Smith shot could only be parried by Lucas and the ball fell nicely into the path of Dan Ness who didn't waste the gift. The Gills' continued to dominate the game and their lead was doubled just before the half hour mark. Elliot Bevis drove to the by-line before pulling the ball back to Buddy O'Shea on the edge of the six-yard box and Buddy drilled the ball into the back of the net to make it 2-0. There was no change in the score line till 6 minutes after the break. Once again Elliot Bevis drove to the by-line and pulled the ball back into the six yard box and this time Harry Smith was on hand to bury the ball into the net to make it 3-0. The Gills scored again just 2 minutes after this when an Elliot Bevis corner was flicked on at the near post by Dan Cox and Buddy O'Shea volleyed the ball home from the back of the area to give him his brace. Though the Gills continued to control the game after this they couldn't increase their goal tally, mainly due to some superb saves by Josh Lucas. This was another confident performance by the Gills and they have now scored 13 goals in their last three games without conceding any.

#### **30th AUGUST 2017**

### ***"THE ROCKIES BEAT THE CHERRIES FOR 1<sup>ST</sup> WIN"***

#### **SHAFTESBURY TOWN RES 3 STURMINSTER NEWTON 0**

Shaftesbury started the better getting off to a great start with a goal after 5mins through a thunderbolt strike from Andy Baker. The visitors then put a sustained period of pressure on and in that time they hit the crossbar twice in 2 mins and forced the Shaftesbury keeper into a point blank save, but try as they did the Cherries couldn't fashion the equaliser. HT 1-0 to Shaftesbury. In the 2<sup>nd</sup> half, the hosts stepped up a gear and took hold of the game and after 67 mins scored again through a superb lob by Lee Gale. After 75 mins Shaftesbury went 3-0 up through a driven shot outside the area with his first touch by Shaun Thompson to make the game safe and record Shaftesburys 1<sup>st</sup>

win of the season, Sturminster battled hard but on the night were beaten by the better team.

### ***"MERE & SPORTS CONJURE UP AN EXCITING 0-0"***

#### **MERE TOWN 0 WESTLAND SPORTS 0**

On paper a 0-0 result looks rather dull but this game was anything but. Mere set out with a clear game plan to frustrate a strong Westlands side and look to pinch something on the break. And that is more or less how the game panned out. Westlands started the game well, dominating possession and pinning Mere into their own half for long spells. Mere found it difficult to get out but defended resolutely to a man and the game reached half-time at 0-0. In the second half Mere dug in again but found they had more of the ball as the half progressed. The home sides hard work and togetherness limited Westlands to a small number of clear chances on goal, despite the visitors best efforts. As the game moved into the final 15 minutes Mere came on stronger, kept possession for longer periods and finally started to ask questions of the Westlands back line who themselves were resolute in defence. In fact, in this last period of the game Mere managed to work a number of clear opportunities to pinch a win, which at the start of the game did not look likely at all. So 0-0 the score at full-time with Mere by far the much happier team keeping their unbeaten home run going and earning a point against tough opposition. Westlands were left frustrated and wondering how they did not convert their first half dominance into goals.

### ***"BALTI LEAVE IT LATE TO STING THE BEES"***

#### **BRIDPORT RES 0 BALTI SPORTS 2**

Balti returned to the top of the DPL table after a hard-fought 2-0 win at St Mary's Field over ten-man Bridport Reserves. It took until the 80th minute for Balti to finally break the deadlock, with Ethan Devaney smacking a volley into the top corner, before Danny Andrews pounced on a parry by Bridport keeper Liam Norris to wrap up the points. Marco Nott, Baltis Manager, believed his side were "never going to score" despite a barrage of second half attacks. "We played well but just couldn't get the goal. At half-time it was 0-0 and we were a little frustrated with our play as well and didn't get the rewards for it. "We were a little heated but once we got out in the second half we were fine. "There was a leaning together of heads on the hour and their lad got sent off for it. It was pretty forceful. From then on we were absolutely camped in their half," he said. "Their keeper made some brilliant saves and I never thought it was going to happen. It was attack after attack. It just felt like we were never going to score. "Out of nowhere Ethan Devaney with his weaker foot volleyed it in off the bar, it was a hell of a goal and we were pretty relieved. He's got five goals from central midfield already. "We kept possession and we got the second goal in the 90th minute. Their keeper made a good save but it fell to Danny Andrews," he added.

Report in conjunction with the; **DorsetECHO**