



DPL – NEWSLETTER - 24



Match Reports Saturday 13th January 2018

DORSET PREMIER LEAGUE

"REC NARROWLY WIN DERBY"

HAMWORTHY REC 3 MERLEY CS 2



This was a vital win for Rec in their local derby with Merley CS, although they were a long way from their best. Four weeks of inactivity showed and Merley, having played last week, looked sharper at times and will feel hard done-by to come out of the game with nothing. Rec welcomed back Callum Charlton, after injury, and he played a pivotal role in the game with a supply of quality crosses and corners. Both sides

started in lively fashion and it was the visitors who went in front on 12 minutes with a great cross from the left cleverly headed by Ellis George in for 0-1. But Rec were level on 24 minutes when, following a corner, the ball fell nicely for Ali Garard to smash in a deserved equaliser. Sam Jones in the home goal was seeing plenty of action and he produced a brilliant save from a close-range header to prevent Merley going back in front again. Pete Pritchard ventured forward from defence and following a free-kick, had his effort well saved by the visiting keeper, HT 1-1. Merley started the second half by forcing Jones into another fine save before, following another attack, the ball rolled along the top of the Rec bar and away to safety. Rec went back in front on 57 minutes when after having a shot blocked on the line the ball found its way to Garard to clinically fire in his and the team's second for 2-1. However, the lead only lasted seven minutes, as Merley were awarded a penalty for a trip in the box duly dispatched by Matt Groves to restore parity. A thrilling finale was in prospect and sure enough, Chris Long and Garard combined, with the latter denied his hat-trick by a great save from the Aaron Drayton in the visitor's goal. But the winning goal came soon, with Rec having been awarded a free-kick in the 78th minutes, for a foul on Long. Charlton took the kick and Chris Long glanced his header beyond the despairing dive of the keeper and just inside the far post. Back came Merley and a rasping shot crashed against the Rec post, but the hosts did their best to keep possession and held on for a priceless win that sees Rec stretch their lead at the top of the table. Another entertaining game and a great advert for the league.

"BEES STING THE SWANS"

BRIDPORT RES 2 SWANAGE TOWN & H 1

Bridport fielded the same starting 11 as the week before after their impressive away win at Sturminster Newton and it proved the right thing to do as the hosts remain unbeaten in 2018 after this home win against Promotion chasing Swanage. The pitch was very soft and bobbly, so good football was always going to be difficult. The Bridport players took to

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the field full of confidence but also without any pressure as no one expected the young bees to get anything from very good Swanage team looking to move up into second place in the table. But it was the hosts who started well and scored first after just 3 minutes, Captain Alf Ward ran past three Swanage players outside the box to then finish with a right foot shot past the keeper. However straight from the kick off Bridport were reduced to ten men following the dismissal of Dominic Mcallister for a reckless tackle. It was always going to be difficult to play against Swanage with 11 players but with 10, many sensed it was only a matter of time before the Away team took full control. Swanage pressed forward and had lots of possession. Billy fleet in the home goal was forced into 2 sharp saves, Swanage also hit the post, the Bridport defence had to be strong which they were, but they were also helped by some poor finishing from the Swans. But it was Bridport who stunned the visitors again after 33 minutes. Sam Handyside picked the ball up outside the box, ran past a static Swanage defence, rounded the keeper and finished confidently, HT 2-0. The second half started as the first half had ended with Bridport having to work very hard all over the pitch to contain Swanage. Swanage pulled a goal back after sixty-five minutes when Bridport failed to stop a right wing cross and Cameron Beard was able to score with a header. On seventy minutes Swanage were also reduced to ten men when Aaron Scott was given a red card for Violent Conduct. As the Bridport players tired substitutes were introduced with Josh Hull returning from injury he had two chances to further increase Bridport's lead but could not find the finish he wanted. Swanage had a strong penalty appeal turned down for hand ball with minutes remaining, however Bridport held on to clinch all three points which were hard earned.

"HAMMERS SQUASH THE TANGERINES"

HAMWORTHY UTD RES 6 GILLINGHAM TOWN 1



On paper this was going to be a difficult game for the Hammers against a team two places and one point above them before the start. The game burst into life direct from the kick off, with Hamworthy scoring a great goal from their very first attack. Edgar Zanin on the wide right robbed the ball off the Town defender before cutting inside at pace and striking a low shot into the far corner of the net from twelve

yards. From the restart Gillingham went on the attack, and they took full advantage of some slight hesitation by the home keeper Shane Cooper in coming off his line to gather the ball, and found the back of the net with another great strike. With a few late comers still coming into the ground, United retook the lead with only five minutes on the clock. Following some good approach work Nick Swann picked out Owen Nicholson in an attacking position, he in turn found Sam Carter out on the left, who following a good first touch put himself through to force a save from the keeper who palmed the ball away, however an alert Zanin was there to react first and prod the ball in to retake the lead and make it three goals with only five minutes of the game gone on the clock. Gillingham were

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certainly not out of it and looked dangerous in attack especially from their wide right player who was giving the Hammers defenders problems. On 14 minutes and perhaps against the run of play the hosts increased their lead further after the tricky Swann was fouled just inside the opposing half. Nicholson's freekick found the head of Jordon Basing standing close to the penalty spot to nod home. The rest of the half saw the visitors very much still in the game, but some good defending, and some poor final balls meant that Cooper only had to make routine saves. However, he was perhaps fortunate to only receive a yellow when he rushed out of his area to bring down a Town attacker who had looked in on goal, HT 3-1. For the first fifteen minutes of the second half Gillingham were on top, but they could not get passed a resolute Hammers defence with centre backs Declan Randall and captain Liam Meldrum at the heart of it. In fact, it was the Hammers who were to score again in the 60th minute. Chris Squire broke up a Town attack and gave the ball to Carter who passed it on to Swann who after exchanging passes with Zanin found Jordon Basing he took one touch before striking a low shot under the keeper, and just inside the post. Gillingham were now left chasing the game and looked to have lost a bit of heart, and they were now guilty of leaving holes in their defence. United took full advantage to score again following an interception by Meldrum, before Jon Nicholas found Josh Rose. His pass went to Nick Patrick who on the half turn picked out Sam Carter to score his first of the game, and his 16th of the season. With still seven minutes left Hamworthy scored another well worked goal after Rose won the ball off a Town defender as he tried to shield it out of play for a goal kick. Rose used his pace to run around his man to toe end the ball back. As he was falling he found Nick Swann in the six-yard box who turned his marker inside out before finding the bottom corner of the net, and complete the scoring. This win meant the Reserves jumped up to 6th position in the league.

DORSET PREMIER LEAGUE CUP QTR FINALS

"WESTLANDS COMFORTABLY IN THE HAT"

MERE TOWN 0 WESTLAND SPORTS 5

Westlands progress to the semi-final of the League Cup was pretty much decided in the first 18 minutes when the visitors raced into a 3-goal lead. Mere's afternoon got off to a poor start when Nigel Benjamin was booked in the very first minute and faced the rest of the game knowing that one more mistimed challenge could draw his game to an early finish. The visitors started brightly and their slick passing, and movement saw them 3-0 up in quick time with goals in the 5th, 14th and 18th minutes. From here on in it was never going to be an easy game for Mere but to be fair to the hosts they stuck together and dug in and as the half went on they saw more of the ball and started to create some openings. At 3-0 at half time it was vital that Mere scored the next goal to be in with any chance of getting themselves back in the game. Two minutes into the second half Sam Biddescombe dribbled his way into the Westland's area and laid the ball off to Scott Martin. Martin then created an opening, but his left foot shot could only drift past the post. 3 minutes later Westlands broke swiftly, and a god move was finished off with an excellent strike to make it 4-0 to the visitors. Mere did not give up and two chances fell their way in quick succession. The first was a decent ball into Jordan Shorrocks whose neat touch set him up for a shot on target. Minutes later a Jamie Samways free kick found Finn

Evan's head but the Westlands defence held firm. As Mere threw players forward to get on the scoresheet Westlands scored a 5th goal. So, Westlands move comfortably into the semi-final after a workmanlike performance with their goals coming courtesy of Dwayne Forshaw, Scott Smith, James Irwin and Henry Lawrence-Napier with 2 goals.

"SHERBORNE PROGRESS AND CLAIM LOCAL BRAGGING RIGHTS"

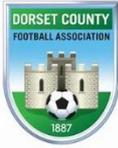
SHAFTESBURY RES 0 SHERBORNE TOWN RES 1

An 80th minute winner from Sherborne Town Reserve skipper Harry Turner was the crucial moment in a tight game to seal the Zebra's into the semi-final of the League Cup. Sherborne had 18 corners in the first half but did not make any of them count. Craig Royle went close in the opening 5 minutes with the hosts keeper making a good save to keep out Shane Pulling's free kick, HT 0-0. Shaftesbury stepped up a gear in the second half but never really tested Kane Woodgate in the Sherborne goal. On an awful pitch which hadn't been rolled, there wasn't much football being played but Sherborne adapted better and got their reward as Turner pounced on a loose ball following Pulling's corner which was their 21st corner of the game. Sherborne held tight and hung on for the win and in doing so secured their second clean sheet in a row.

"BALTI JUST TO HOT FOR STURMINSTER"

STURMINSTER NEWTON 0 BALTI SPORTS 1

It was the visitors who progressed into the DPL League Cup Semi Finals following a closely contested game. Balti started the better of the sides and were moving the ball well and playing at a high tempo. It took until the 12th minute for the first chance, which came Balti's way, but the final shot was straight at the Stur keeper. Stur went straight up the other end and a shot by Tom Carter flew wide of goal. Balti responded with a quick counter when Dan Andrews fired straight at Sam Stroud in the Stur goal. In the 17th minute a straight ball down the middle from Balti wasn't dealt with, and Andrews lobbed Stroud from the edge of the area to put Balti 1 up. The game then turned into a tight tussle with possession swapping between the teams, and it took an outstanding save from Home custodian Stroud to prevent Balti from taking a 2-0 lead into Half Time, HT 0-1. The second half started with the Home side looking nervous, and within a minute, Andrews fired over when well-placed for Balti. This seemed to kick Sturminster into life. In the 52nd minute, James Neal got down the right-hand side and whipped in a good cross to the far post where Tom Carter met it with his head, but player Manager Marco Nott made a comfortable save. 3 minutes later Neal again found himself in space on the right, cut in and fired over. Stur were doing their best to get an equaliser, and Ivan Ivanov was well placed but fired wide in the 65th minute. Stur's best chance fell in the 68th minute when a lovely piece of play ended with the ball out wide, a good cross followed and was met by the head of Matt Clarke, but it whistled over the bar. There was a lot of endeavour from the Home side in a much improved 2nd half performance but they couldn't find the equalising goal, with the game finishing 1-0 to the visitors meaning All 3 Quarter Finals played so far have all ended in Away wins.



DORSET SENIOR TROPHY QTR FINAL

PARLEY SPORTS 4 POOLE TOWN DEVELOPMENT 5



The holders bowed out of the Competition after this 9-goal thriller in East Dorset, both sides played some good attacking football which, given the heavy conditions was a credit to both teams, there was nothing much to choose between the 2 sides as they went in at the Break 2-2 after an entertaining 1st period. Both the hosts goals came courtesy of Ben Bosley and for the visitors, 2 strikes from Eder

Teixeira Batista. Into the 2nd half and after a cagey opening, it was the visitors who edged further in front when, first Batista got his hat trick and then George Turners sublime lob saw the Dolphins open a 2-goal lead. Back came the holders and on 61 minutes Matt Newberry reduced the arrears with a neat finish only for Turner to grab his 2nd and Poole's 5th moments later. Still the hosts refused to give up and with just under 20 minutes to go grabbed their 4th courtesy of Josh Moody. However, that's where the scoring ended as Poole hung on to make it into the draw for the Semi Final.



WESTLAND SPORTS RES 2 DORCHESTER SPORTS 1

The Competitions giant killers were at it again as Westland's 2nd string pulled off another Cup Upset when they dumped Dorchester Sports out of the Competition, this after falling behind to Dan Pearts free kick on the half hour mark. The hosts got themselves level just before the break when Alex Murphy's effort found the back of the net, HT 1-1. It was all to play for in the 2nd half as both sides looked to make inroads, however the all-important winner came courtesy of the hosts Charlie Gay whose fine solo effort in the 71st minute settled this tie and saw Westlands into the hat for the semi-final draw.

WAREHAM RANGERS 1 HOLT UNITED 3

Holt United safely made it through after this 3-1 win in the Purbecks and are on course to make it to the Final for the 2nd year running, where if they get there, they will hope to go 1 better than last year's defeat to Parley Sports. Wareham and Holt both had chances to go in ahead at half time, but it was the visitors who did so with a quick move direct from back to front saw Nathan Saxby give them 1-0 ahead at half time. Wareham pushed on in the second half and had most of chances but were unable to level and it was Holt who further extended their lead after a counter attack punished Wareham with Saxby again showing his finishing prowess. Wareham continued to push for a goal back but despite more missed opportunities for Wareham it was the visitors who made the most of another well worked chance with Luke Homer making it 3-0. Wareham kept pressing and pulled a goal back through good attacking play and a well-timed finish from Aaron Merredew. Wareham had the ball in the net again only to be disallowed by the Referee, but that was a good as it got for the hosts as the Bulls stayed on course to the final.

