

Match Reports 21st April 2018

“TANGERINES TASTE ANOTHER VICTORY”

MERE TOWN 0 GILLINGHAM TOWN 3



Gillingham ran out comfortable 3-0 winners in a docile derby at Mere, which rarely sparked into life. An early Gillingham goal after three minutes, as Elliot Bevis capitalised on a through ball to round the keeper and stroke the ball home, set the pattern of the game – when Gillingham played well, they penetrated the Mere defence, however the hot weather, the bumpy pitch and a resilient home team,

meant that those moments of quality were few and far between. However, in the 22nd minute Elliot Bevis beat his marker, his shot was partially saved but Buddy O’Shea was on hand to squeeze the ball home from a tight angle to double the visitors advantage. The same player was involved in the next major incident in this game, being sent off in the 43rd minute for a contentious tackle on the Mere centre half. So, the visitors went into the break two goals up but a man down, HT 0-2. Mere never really made their man advantage count during the second half, as Gillingham continually controlled the game, a poor goal kick saw Ryan Schouten put Elliot Bevis through to round the keeper and secure the victory for Gillingham. Another three points for Gillingham, but for the 2nd week running they have had to play out the second half with ten men and whilst this did not have an impact on the result, it may well have implications for the remainder of the season.



Photos courtesy of Terry Lucas Photography - www.terrylucasphotography.co.uk

“REC RETURN TO WINNING WAYS OVER THE SWANS”

HAMWORTHY REC 3 SWANAGE TOWN & H 0

Rec bounced back from their mid-week defeat at Gillingham to register another three points against Swanage. As in most of their recent matches Rec were dominant in the first-half and went in at the break two up, but struggled to maintain that level in the second period and Swanage came into the game and

had plenty of chances to have levelled, but failed to take them and a late goal by sub Matt Head put more of a gloss to the win. Captain for the day, Richie Sands was instrumental in the first goal after only 5 minutes, starting and finishing the move, he won the ball in midfield before sending Brad Hill away on the left. His pin-point cross was neatly side-footed in by the ex-Swanage man for 1-0. The visitors responded with a shot of their own fizzing just wide, but Rec were well on top and playing some neat football and it came as no surprise when the lead was doubled on 20 minutes. Callum Charlton crossed from the right and John Webb controlled the ball well before firing in the second. A telling through-ball gave Swanage their best chance, but keeper Sam Jones made a great block and then Luke Geddes a brave last-gasp tackle to deny Swans hot-shot, Cameron Beard. Rec should have increased their lead, but chances went begging and Jones, again showed his value to the team with another vital save right on the whistle, HT 2-0. Swanage were livelier after the break and had good chances of their own. A good team move saw their resulting shot go wide, followed by a header just off target. Jones made another save from a half-volley, before producing a wonderful double-save to preserve his clean-sheet. Rec were holding out and against the run of play added another in stoppage-time when Matt Head exchanged passes with the industrious Webb and netted to make the final score 3-0.

“HOLT GAIN VALUABLE WIN IN DOWNING WESTLANDS”

HOLT UNITED 1 WESTLAND SPORTS 0

Two of the Leagues big hitters went head to head at Petersham Lane with the Bulls shading to it by the narrowest of margins. With both sides needing 3 points to maintain their own title aspirations, in a high intensity game, Westlands dominated the first half. On 10 minutes they had a great chance to score when Dwayne Forshaw struck from close range but Chris Lynch saved well down to his right, but with no quarter asked or given the half finished level, HT 0-0. There were scant chances for the hosts until Holt created their first opening 5 minutes into the second half, good hold up play by Mike Haskell set up Nathan Saxby but he was denied by a superb save by Sam Watts in the visitors goal. The resulting corner was only cleared to the edge of the box, where Holts Ben Sullivan powered in a left foot volley to put the Bulls ahead crucially. Westlands nearly drew level on 70 mins when Haydn Hodges struck a fierce shot from 30 yards but to Holt's relief it cannoned back off the post and was scrambled away to safety. This was always going to be a close affair and try as the visitors did they could not breakdown a resolute home defence who managed to see out the game and claim the vital 3 points. Holt will now go into their Midweek Dorset Senior Trophy Final full of confidence where, ironically, they will meet Westland Sports 2nd string at the County Ground – HUFC – Tuesday 24th April, 2018 – ko 7.45pm

"PARLEY COME FROM 2 DOWN TO SQUASH THE CHERRIES"

PARLEY SPORTS 3 STURMINSTER NEWTON 2

In another proverbial game of 2 halves, Parley left it late to come from 2 down to nick the win in injury time. The hosts started sloppily with the visitors gaining control, on 19 minutes the Cherries went ahead when Jamie Danoris converted after a quick breakaway. 8 minutes later and the visitors doubled their lead as Danoris scored again, this time capitalising on an error in the home defence. Parley continued to probe but couldn't get a goal back before the break, HT 0-2. Eventually the Home side managed to pull 1 back with 20 minutes to go when substitute Dan Haynes played in Jack Voisey who calmly beat the keeper to reduce the arrears. 5 minutes later and the scores were deservedly level when Matt Newberry beat 2 men on the left, and put in a dangerous cross which was rammed home via the crossbar by Voisey. The hosts continued to push for the winner but in fact were indebted to their keeper Dan Stone who pulled off 2 great saves to prevent Sturminster going back in front. With the clock now into injury time, Parley's comeback was completed when Matt Newberry's free kick found its way into the bottom corner.

"DORCHESTER WIN ON THE ROAD AT THE REC"

BLANDFORD UTD 1 DORCHESTER SPORTS 2

In an instantly forgettable 1st half with no real action of note, all the action happened in the 2nd half with Blandford taking the lead via a disputed penalty converted by Mark Ford in the 61st minute. The Royals looked to be heading for another notable win but with 2 minutes remaining, Jamie Rawlings equalised for the visitors after an error by the home keeper, if that was hard to take for the Royals faithful, 2 minutes later Jamie Samways let fly for Dorchester from fully 20 yards with a screamer that flew in after clipping the underside of the bar to give Sports the 3 points

"BALTIS COMFORTABLE WIN IN THE PURBECKS"

WAREHAM RANGERS 0 BALTI SPORTS 4

In what was a typical end of season affair, where neither side really looked like they wanted to be playing football, Balti ran out comfortable winners. The First half was an even affair with chances for both teams. Wareham didn't take their chances created, whilst the men from Balti did with Charlie Kenderdine opening the scoring in the 21st minute with Oscar Preece doubling it on the half hour, HT 0-2. Both teams looked like they didn't want to be on the pitch and would rather be in the pub in the second half, however Balti made the most of Wareham going down to 10 men after Wareham had made their 3 substitutions and Shane Orchard had gone off with a suspected fractured cheekbone. Two further strikes from Balti's Danny Andrews sealed a comfortable win.

"HAMMERS BEAT THE ZEBRAS"

HAMWORTHY UTD RES 2 SHERBORNE TOWN RES 0



In another poor game where the 1st half was a dour event, the best chance of the half fell to Nick Patrick as he was played through 1 on 1 from a Brandon Randall pass, only for the visiting keeper to save it. Apart from that the Hammers were limited to playing off Jordan Basing with the visitors' content to sit behind the ball and soak up the pressure, which the Sherborne defence did well at, although they offered little going

forward, HT 0-0. To be fair, the 2nd half wasn't much better, but the home side eventually went through the gears. Nick Coombs was introduced on 56 mins and immediately got the play settled and Hamworthy started playing some good stuff. On 65 minutes Jordan Basing bullied their fullback and latched onto a loose ball, he ran down the right wing and cut on his favoured left foot to be brought down in the area. Up stepped Kyle Spyers to strike home from the penalty spot and break the deadlock. From this moment on it was a dominant display as the home side looked to kill the game off. Nick Patrick hit a shot from the edge of area over the bar, and a few half chances went begging. The game was over in the 85th minute when a ball was swung into Basing from Randall, he was brought down by a Sherborne defender for what looked another certain penalty however as he fell he laid the ball off to Richard Galeg to powerfully strike home from 8 yards and seal the win.

Photos courtesy of Jordan Jones - HUFC