



# DPL – NEWSLETTER - 34



**Match Reports Mon 2<sup>nd</sup> April & Wed 4<sup>th</sup> April 2018**

**2<sup>nd</sup> April 2018**

***"MERLEY BEAT THE WEATHER TO ROYALLY BEAT THE BLUES"***

**MERLEY CS 6 BLANDFORD UTD 1**



Full credit goes to all at Merley for managing to get this game played, all other scheduled Bank Holiday Monday fixtures fell foul of the continued wet weather. The visitors Blandford looked lively from the off and had two good early chances catching Merley napping, firstly shooting just wide and then soon after stand in home keeper Jamie Moore's saved well at the striker's feet. The hosts were struggling to

find their rhythm and it was Blandford who drew first blood with a superbly struck long range effort from prolific striker Mark Ford which looped high over the head of Moores to give the visitors a deserved lead after 8 minutes. Merley almost answered immediately when Jack Mills was put through, only to see his shot trickle just wide of the upright. Merley levelled on 12 mins when Ellis George burst through from midfield, beating the Blandford defenders for pace before rounding the keeper and slotting home. Merley were now starting to play some nice football and went 2-1 up on 26 mins when Matt Groves sent the keeper the wrong way from the penalty spot having himself been brought down. Two mins later and it was 3-1 with Groves picking up his second, heading home at the far post from a long looping cross from Mills on the left wing after a great team build up, HT 3-1. The home side extended their lead in the first minute of the second half when Lee Wilkins got on to the end of a superbly executed flick on from Alan Marsh. On 55 mins it was 5-1 when Ben Satterley's long-range effort was deflected up and over the Blandford keeper. Merley continued to rain attack after attack on the Blandford defence and went 6-1 up on 74 mins when Wilkins headed home his second of the game from a Groves cross. Both Groves and Wilkins were unlucky not to get their hat tricks in the dying minutes, both being thwarted by the Blandford keeper Ben Robbins, who had made some superb saves throughout the game despite the score line. This win sees Merley Cobham Sports move to the top of the table.



ALL other scheduled League games were POSTPONED due to waterlogged pitches.

**4<sup>th</sup> April 2018**

***"HAMMERS HAVE THE LAST WORD AT SPORTS"***

**DORCHESTER SPORTS 3 HAMWORTHY UTD RES 4**

Hamworthy beat their hosts with the very last kick of the game in a thrilling encounter at the Avenue stadium which saw all 7 goals scored in the 2nd period, A gloomy Tuesday meant the games duration was 40 minutes each way, Sports dominated the first half possession and had good chances but Joel Hewitt blasted over from close range and Will Turland saw his shot well saved by the visiting keeper Rob Beck, to see the shortened half finish level at 0-0, Sports also started the second half on top and took the lead on 50 minutes when Joel Hewitt's header found the back of the net but the Hammers reacted well and were very much on top putting the home side under a lot of pressure but they missed a few chances before finally equalizing through the inform Sam Carter, Hamworthy kept pressing and added a further two quick goals both scored by Josh Rose to turn the game completely in their favour, however with the game fading out, Dorchester rallied and pulled 1 back through on 73 minutes through substitute Lewis Amor and with 3 minutes to go they then equalised through Will Turlands effort smashed in from the edge of the box. The game was now being played in almost complete darkness and in stoppage time, Hamworthy were awarded a free kick, which wasn't cleared by Sports and the loose ball was smashed into the top corner by Chris Squires to win it for the visitors, there wasn't even enough time to get the ball out of the net and restart as the ref blew for full time. This Away win sees Hamworthy leap frog Dorchester Sports into 4<sup>th</sup> place in the table whilst Sports drop to 6<sup>th</sup>.