



18/19 NEWSLETTER - 21



Match Reports

1st & 4th December 2018

1st December

League

“SPORTS GET THEIR REVENGE ON THE CHERRIES”

DORCHESTER SPORTS 3 STURMINSTER NEWTON 0

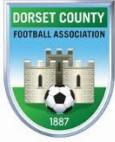


DORCHESTER Sports earned a morale-boosting 3-0 win over Sturminster Newton United to claim an immediate revenge in the Dorset Premier League. In their previous league game, Sports had lost 2-1 at Sturminster, which gave the Cheries their 1st points of the season at their 13th attempt !! But enjoyed a quick start to put the game comfortably to bed by half-time. Sports, led by assistant-manager Steve Churchill due to the unavailability of boss Ashley James, were dominant in possession and rarely looked like conceding throughout

the match. Churchill's men took an early lead after 15 minutes, when Jamie Rawlings (see above) capitalised on a defensive error and took the ball round the Sturminster goalkeeper to fire in. The home side kept pressing and added a second 10 minutes later, when Jamie West tapped in from six yards out. The third goal followed soon after when Adam Steele floated a ball into the box which crashed against the crossbar before deflecting off one of the visitors and into the net after 40 minutes. Other chances followed through Paul Hill, West and Steele as the home side tried to extend their lead further. Half-time came with Sports comfortably ahead and the second half would see them preserve the lead until full-time. Chances did come about but saw Sports in a less clinical mood as they could not manage to extend their lead. Goalkeeper Anthony Frost had to be subbed after 65 minutes with vision issues, which have subsequently cleared up. Steele was unfortunate to not bag a goal when he lobbed an effort over the goalkeeper, only for a defender to have raced back to hack the ball off the line. Brandon Heal then got through on goal but took a touch too many which allowed the Sturminster defence to clear away the danger. Hill had another chance when pressuring a defender allowed him to break clean through, but he saw his effort saved. Sports' assistant-manager Steve Churchill said: "Especially as we lost 2-1 to them in the last game it was nice to get a bit of payback for that one. "The boys seemed to enjoy it. We went with a slightly different formation which seemed to work. They adapted well to it. "It was pleasing to get a clean sheet and some of the football is the best we have played for some time."



Report Courtesy of the **DorsetECHO**
Photos Courtesy of Finnbar Webster



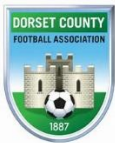
Dorset Senior Trophy

“MERLEY LICK THE TANGERINES”

MERLEY CS 2 GILLINGHAM TOWN 1

Following Merleys' huge win against Swanage last week, Gillingham knew they had to be on their A game to avoid defeat in this County Cup Quarter Final clash which, due to the groundsman hard work, was given the all clear despite the heavy rains which had claimed so many fixtures. The home side had made five changes to the side that destroyed Swanage. Cup football often springs surprises and the visitors started the game looking to do just that. Despite not creating any real chances Gillingham competed strongly and looked to counter attack whenever possible as Merley looked to find a way to goal with wave after wave of attacking football. It wasn't until 24 mins that the home side eventually took the lead, with Lewis Mills starting the attack from right back, switching the play out to the left flank and continuing his run as the Merley midfield strung together some lovely one touch passing before delivering the killer ball for Mills to pop up in the box to slot the ball home with an excellent finish. Merley looked to build on their lead, but the visitors stood strong despite only getting out of their half a couple of times in the remainder of the half, HT 1-0. The Hosts should really have doubled their lead just after the break when Asa Phillips slid through Brandon Randall, but the Gillingham keeper did well to stop the young midfielder's effort. Gillingham took that warning well and then had their best spell of the game, pinning Merley back and testing their defence. And it came as no surprise when the Tangerines equalised as a cheap corner taken by Brad Hansford was helped on its way at the near post by Dan Cox and as stand in keeper Jamie Moore's tried to clear the header, his punch only found the top corner for 1-1. The visitors joy was short lived however as the home side were back in front on 65 mins when a Phillips' shot came back off the post for Matt Groves to take a touch and fire home to restore the home sides advantage. Gillingham continued to compete strongly but Merleys' defence held strong to see them safely into the hat for the semi-final draw.

1st December



Dorset Senior Cup

“DOLPHINS HAMMER THE SWANS”

POOLE TOWN 10 SWANAGE TOWN & H 2



Poole Town continued their ruthless scoring streak in the Dorset Senior Cup with a 10-2 hammering of Dorset Premier League outfit Swanage Town & Herston. Charlie Davis notched a hat-trick in the quarter-final tie, with Sam House (2), Jake Scrimshaw, Adam Grange, Jez Bedford, coach Micky Hubbard and Tyrrell Sampson also on target for Dolphins. Poole Town, who had crushed Portland United 7-1 in the first round, conceded 2

though through efforts from Swans duo Paul Best and Garan Bennett but it mattered not.