



DPL – NEWSLETTER - 14



Match Reports Saturday 21st October 2017

DPL LEAGUE CUP – Round 1

"BALTI TO HOT FOR MERLEY"

MERLEY CS 1 BALTI SPORTS 2



Merley started the stronger of these two good footballing sides but seemed to have forgotten their shooting boots as they struggled to get any attempts on target. Asa Phillips twice went close and Scott Nicholson also saw his effort go wide of the back post. Balti battled well but didn't create anything of note during the first period and were

perhaps a little fortunate to go into the break on level terms, HT 0-0. The second half saw Balti come out attacking and they had the chance to take the lead when awarded a penalty on 50 mins. Up stepped Balti's Ricky Lane, whose strike went left but Aaron Drayton pulled off a superb save to keep the score at 0-0. Just a couple of minutes later however, a free kick from just outside the Merley box was superbly dispatched by Ryan Dovall leaving Drayton with no chance and saw Balti finally break the deadlock. Merley pressed on looking for the equaliser and following the three player changes it was substitute Ellis George who turned neatly to fire home a nod down from skipper Lee Wilkins to bring the sides level on 62 mins, game on. A midfield battle ensued, with neither side really creating any clear chances, but with extra time looming it was Balti who finally sealed victory as they caught Merley by surprise on the counter attack as Ricki Lane made up for his earlier penalty miss by making no mistake when converting to book Balti's place in the next round with just five mins left of the clock.

"BULLS HAND OUT A ROYAL BEATING"

BLANDFORD UTD 1 HOLT UTD 6

Blandford started this game very well but ultimately were victims of their own mistakes, coupled with not converting their chances also. The visitors eventually got into their stride in the testing conditions and took the lead in the 21st minute when Luke Homer converted a free kick after Blandford had lost possession cheaply, 5 minutes later Nathan Saxby doubled the visitors advantage, Homer got his 2nd and the Bulls 3rd in the 43rd minute, however the hosts pulled 1 back in 1st half injury time through Paul Fords composed finish, HT 1-3. The second half started well for Blandford, if only they could have got the next goal, however it wasn't to be as Holt got their 4th courtesy of a little help from the strengthening wind as a cross by Sam Pearce deceived the home custodian on the wind

and flew into the net. With the tie now settled, Holt soaked up the Royals pressure before hitting them with 2 further strikes, through Mike Haskell's penalty conversion in the 78th minute and completing his hat trick, Homer got the 6th in the 85th minute. One blemish on Holts day was the sending off for Shane Jackson after seeing red in the 81st minute.

"MERE PROGRESS AT A BLUSTERY COUNTY GROUND"

HAMWORTHY UTD RES 2 MERE TOWN 3

Mere had much the better of the first part of the game after taking an early lead after 2 minutes with Joe Paterson getting on the scoresheet. In the 25th minute the visitors were forced to make a change with Charles Parry replacing Tom Cowley. Four minutes later the hosts equalised through Sam Carters neat finish, this goal signalled a real shift in momentum in the game as the Hammers started to press more and seemed to be coping better with the blustery conditions. One minute before half time Jamie Samways was shown a yellow card and sin binned HT 1-1. The start of the second half saw the visitors playing with 10 men. Hamworthy started to take more control of the game and deservedly took the lead after 70 minutes when Carter again scored. This was a hotly disputed goal as the visitors felt one of their players had been fouled in the build-up, however the protests fell on deaf ears. Clearly now pumped up, the visitors went straight down the other end and were awarded a penalty as Sam Paterson was brought down in the box, up stepped Joe Patterson to score and restore parity with 15 minutes to go, game on. The visitors now sensed they could go on and win the tie and sure enough, on 83 minutes Scott Martin popped up with the winner. So, 3-2 to Mere is how it finished. This wasn't pretty at times, due mainly to the conditions but it is Mere who find themselves in the next round of the cup.

"ROCKIES DESERVEDLY WIN AGAINST SPORTS"

SHAFTESBURY RES 3 DORCHESTER SPORTS 2

To many this result was the shock off the round as, however the home side deserved this win and a place in the hat for the next round, the conditions were tough, but it was the hosts who settled the quicker and they took the lead after 4 mins through a goal by Lee Gale. After the goal Dorchester woke up and created a few chances for themselves. After 10 mins Sports had a very good chance with an overhead kick effort, however home custodian Chris Fitzpatrick made a good save to keep the score at 1-0. With 15 minutes on the clock the hosts doubled their advantage as following a brilliant run from Mali Benjamin, he squared the ball to Andy Baker who turned the defender and smashed the ball home. Sports kept plugging away, they hit the crossbar in the 27th minute from a header, however on the half hour they pulled 1 back following a low shot into the corner, HT 2-1. Into the second half and Dorchester came out the brighter as they took the game to their hosts and it came as no surprise when in the 70th minute they equalised. The tie was now delicately poised on a knife edge with both sides searching for a winner but with extra time looming, the hosts got the winner in the 85th minute, after a good run and ball across the box by Aaron lane - Lenny was converted by Shaun Thompson with a well driven shot into bottom corner.

"ZEBRAS FINALLY TASTE VICTORY"

SHERBORNE TOWN RES 3 PARLEY SPORTS 2



At the 12th time of asking this season, Sherborne finally won a game this season as they deservedly beat Parley at Raleigh Grove. With New Management duo, Glenn Nathan and Lloyd Green taking control of their first home game, it proved to be a thriller played in very windy conditions. The hosts played against the strong wind in the first half and took the game to Parley in the

opening ten minutes with both Ben Morris and Harry Turner going close for the hosts. But it was Parleys skipper Ali Williams who opened the scoring by heading in from a Dan Hiscock corner in the 24th minute, HT 1-0. With the wind now behind, them Sherborne grew in confidence and they were rewarded with a goal scored by Dan Newins following Sam Jarman's corner in the 65th minute. Both sides then created chances with the visitors playing their counter attacking style very well. But it was Sherborne who got their noses in front through Craig Royle, who scored with a delightful chip with 15 minutes to go. Parley looked for the equaliser and got it straight away as Jake Hobbs headed bizarrely into his own net 2 minutes later to draw the scores level again. Sherborne changed their formation as they pushed for a winner and their endeavour paid dividends as in the 82nd minute, Royle again scored, this time with a 25 yarder to edge the hosts back in front and ultimately into the next round. The new Management duo will be hoping their team can replicate this form into League Points.

"SPORTS WIN A TESTING 1 AGAINST THE BEES"

WESTLAND SPORTS 1 BRIDPORT RES 0

In a game dominated by a strong cross-wing, both teams tried their best to keep the ball down and play some good football but the final pass or cross often went astray. In the early exchanges Westlands put over a couple of good crosses but the wind took them away from the onrushing forward. Bridport's best effort was a free kick which flew just past the far post. Westlands had a goal bound header cleared of the line and Sam Watts had to tip a good shot from Bridport's Josh Hull over the bar. As the half wore on Westlands began to dominate but couldn't turn some promising moves into goals, HT 0-0. The first chance of the second half fell to Bridport when their speedy sub, Santiago Alonso, raced through but missed the target with his shot. Jamie Irwin was then through for Westlands but saw his rather weak effort saved. In the 75th minute Westlands took the lead. Leo Hayward put over an in-swinging corner and Scott Smith rose to head in at the far post. Leo Hayward then showed good skill to break through the Bridport defence, but his shot came back off the post with the keeper beaten. No more goals and so Westlands ease into the next round.

MILBORNE PORT V STURMINSTER NEWTON

Match Postponed due to a Waterlogged Pitch

DPL LEAGUE

"GILLINGHAM WIN IN THE PURBECKS"

WAREHAM RANGERS 1 GILLINGHAM TOWN 2

The hosts sustained their 9th straight defeat as Gillingham put the recent poor form behind them after this win at a windswept Purbeck Centre and in doing so completed a win double over their hosts this season. Gillingham started the first half with the wind behind them and attacked Wareham from the start, Elliot Bevis particularly enjoying the conditions, tormenting the Wareham defence. In the 13th minute it was Bevis who pulled a loose ball back across the penalty box for Buddy O'Shea to sweep home, 1-0 to Gillingham. Despite the conditions, and with the ball spending a lot of time on neighbouring cricket and rugby pitches, where they could, both teams, to their credit, were playing some good football, Gillingham attacking, Wareham defending well, and breaking with purpose. On the half hour one of those swift Wareham breaks found the striker free, his shot was saved superbly by Jamie Beale in the Gillingham goal, but the rebound fell to Wareham's William Bartley who despatched the loose ball into the empty net, 1-1. Gillingham did have the ball in the net again, but this was ruled out for offside, a Wareham player talked his way into the sin-bin, but the game stayed level as the half-time whistle went, HT 1-1. The plea to keep the ball on the deck to minimise the wind disadvantage during the second half was obviously heeded as Gillingham started well, controlling the game and playing through Wareham and the wind. In the 55th minute one of those moves found Bevis, who beat his man and crossed for O'Shea to score his second goal, 2-1 to the visitors. On the hour mark Gillingham made their task of securing victory even more difficult as Jack Baker saw Red for a poor tackle and the visitors were down to ten men. A few minutes later Ollie Blackmore stupidly got himself sin-binned, so leaving the Gills down to nine players temporarily, unfortunately the hosts couldn't capitalise on their 2-man advantage as Gillingham held on for the narrow win.



BODMIN TOWN V SWANAGE TOWN & HERSTON

Match Postponed due to a Waterlogged Pitch