



## Match Reports 17<sup>th</sup> – 18th April 2018

**TUESDAY 17<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2018**

### **“RIDGWAY BRAGGING RIGHTS FOR BALTI SPORTS”**

#### **BALTI SPORTS 3 DORCHESTER SPORTS 1**



Balti Sports earned local bragging rights over arch-rivals Dorchester Sports with a 3-1 victory at Weymouth College in the Dorset Premier League. Dorchester Sports took the lead when a Jamie Beasley cross was inadvertently diverted into his own net by Ryan Dovell. But Marco Nott's men responded by forcing a similar own goal error from Dorchester keeper Antony Frost from a throw-in to level the scores. The visitors then aimed two shots over the Balti bar before Danny Andrews nodded home a

Dovell cross – the experienced midfielder atoning for his earlier own goal mishap – as the hosts led 2-1 at half-time. Balti's Ethan Devaney hit the cross bar after the break and Ricky Lane missed a one-on-one chance before a contentious penalty, given for a Dan Belt foul on Josh Houghton, allowed Lane to complete the scoring late on. Speaking to Echosport following the clash, Nott was full of praise for his side, but singled out Andrews for his contribution. He said: "We probably just shaded it and deserved the victory. The first half was 100 miles per hour, back and forth all the time. "I felt we handled Beasley very well – Scott Walker man-marked him. I thought the way our defence dealt with them, especially Beasley, was great. It was an excellent performance. "Danny was outstanding, a constant threat. He got 30 goals last season and he's probably on target to do that again, he's a natural goal scorer." Dorchester Sports Manager

Ashley James, however, was left to rue the penalty decision he believed had "killed" his team. He said: "I think we gave them a good game, it was close. I didn't think there was much in it. "The penalty was a massive turning point. We had a good spell just before the penalty and looked like we could get back into the game. "It killed the game and it killed us. You could clearly see Dan won the ball." The sides remain in the same positions, with Dorchester Sports staying in sixth and Balti lying in tenth.



Report courtesy of the **DorsetECHO**

Photos courtesy of Steve Hunter – Balti Sports FC

DORSET PREMIER FOOTBALL LEAGUE – NEWSLETTER 38

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## **"TANGERINES DO THE DOUBLE OVER THE GREENS"**

### **GILLINGHAM TOWN 2 HAMWORTHY REC 0**

Gillingham completed a quick-fire double over Hamworthy Rec and in doing so further closed the gap to just 1 point to the leaders. Following their victory at Magna Road earlier this month, they struck twice in the first 11 minutes to seal a vital win at Harding's Lane. Gillingham started brightly and after four minutes, Buddy O'Shea pressurised the Rec keeper into a mistake, he chased down the ricochet and coolly slotted the ball home to give Gillingham the lead. This lead was doubled on 11 minutes when a Joe Smeeton cross was met by Dan Cox who rose above the defence to guide the ball home. The league leaders were visibly shaken and were lucky to only remain two goals down as the half progressed, the Gillingham forwards exploited gaps in the defence but were unable to add to the lead before half-time. With the advantage of the slope and the wind, Rec were expected to put pressure on the Gillingham Town goal as the second half commenced, however that rarely came. The threat was snuffed out by the hard-working midfield and the well marshalled Gills defence and it took until the 85th minute for Rec to break through, when they struck the bar with a fierce shot. In fact, it was Gillingham who looked the more dangerous and likely to add to their lead. However, neither team were able to further change the score line with the Tangerines running out deserved winners to close the gap at the top of the table, although they have played 3 more games than the Leaders.

## **"WAREHAMS 2<sup>nd</sup> HALF SHOWING STUNS THE ROYALS"**

### **WAREHAM RANGERS 5 BLANDFORD UTD 3**

Wareham gained a valuable win but needed a much improved 2<sup>nd</sup> half performance to finally beat Blandford. A poor first half showing for Wareham where they went in 3-1 down after a lack lustre performance. The visitors opened the scoring early when Mark Ford scored, Rob Manson added their 2<sup>nd</sup> with Ford scoring again to get the Royals third, replying for the hosts was Lee Bellows, who scored after a Mike Collings header had cannoned down off the underside of the bar, and he headed in on the follow up, HT 1-3. Into the 2<sup>nd</sup> half, and the hosts were a completely different outfit and they dominated proceedings right from the off, Aaron Merredew reduced the arrears with a well taken finish. The equaliser was of special quality with captain Lee Phibbs hitting a strike on the outside of his boot that nestled into the top corner. There was only now ever going to be one winner as Wareham continued to mount pressure on the Royals goal and eventually Wareham took the lead after a strong headed effort from Aaron Merredew. Wareham thought they had extended their lead further but a powerful header by Lee Bellows was ruled out. The hosts did further add to their lead with another well taken goal, this time with a 35-yard strike from Shane Orchard.

## **"HONOURS EVEN AT BARNETT FIELD"**

### **STURMINSTER NEWTON 3 SHERBORNE TOWN RES 3**



The Points were shared at a wet and windy Barnett's Field. The game was an entertaining fixture, with it flowing from end to end. The first chance of the game fell to Niall Woollard whose downward header was saved well by Woodgate in the Sherborne goal, Stur immediately won the ball back, and following some quick passing, found Ryan Garrod who finished to put Sturminster Newton in front. It took only two minutes for the equaliser to come

though, with Shane Pulling Curling Home a free kick from the edge of the area. A minute later the visitors took the lead, with the home defence caught napping, Ben Morris finished off a quick counter attack. On 17 minutes, the game was all square again with Matt Clarke equalising for Sturminster Newton, finishing off a fine passing move. The game swung from end to end but at HT it was level at 2-2. The second half followed much the same pattern as the 1<sup>st</sup> with end to end football with both sides going for the win, 7 minutes into the second half, Sturminster Newton won a corner, that was whipped in by James Neal and met by the head of Neil Sweatman to put Stur back in front. On the hour mark, another quick counter attack from the Zebras found Ollie Hibbard who finished neatly to restore parity again. Either side could have won the game with several chances created by both sides, but poor finishing and good defensive work from both sides saw the game eventually finishing 3-3 in, what was an exciting game for the neutral!

**WEDNESDAY 18th APRIL 2018**

## **"SWANAGE BEST ON THE NIGHT"**

### **SWANAGE TOWN & H 2 MERLEY CS 1**

Swans defeated Merley Cobham Sports 2-1 at Day's Park in The Dorset Premier League. The hosts were dealt a blow after 5 minutes when Elliott Parslow pulled up injured and had to be replaced by Cody Littleford. Top Scorer Cameron Beard open the scoring for The Swans from the penalty spot following a hand ball in the Merley area. However, 3 minutes before the interval the visitors hit back through Asa Phillips with the equaliser from close range, HT 1-1. Swanage were much improved in the second half and created some good chances. Cameron Beard went near with a close-range effort following good work from Paul Best and Aaron Atkinson. But the crucial winner came courtesy of Swans skipper Paul Best who slotted a low shot past the visiting keeper to secure the 3 points for The Swans.

## **"HOLT SLIP UP, PAY THE PENALTY AND SEE RED"**

### **HOLT UNITED 1 PARLEY SPORTS 1**

Holt will see this as a chance lost to close the gap on the leaders who had lost the night before when they were held to a draw by a spirited Parley side who took the lead in the 32<sup>nd</sup> minute after Ben Bosley was fouled in the area, Jonny Cook stepped up to send Holt Keeper Chris Lynch the wrong way and give the Yellows the lead. Holt's cause wasn't helped just before half time as Charlie Meggan was sent off seemingly for something he said to the Match Official, HT 0-1. Into the 2<sup>nd</sup> half and 10-man Holt stepped up the pressure and eventually another long ball over the Parley defence saw ace marksman Nathan Saxby run onto and calmly flick the ball in to equalise.

## **"WESTLANDS WIN SMOOTHLY AT THE ROCKIES"**

### **SHAFTESBURY RES 0 WESTLAND SPORTS 4**

The visitors started the game like a house on fire as they raced out of the traps, they were quicker and sharper to the ball as the hosts struggled to get any possession. Sports took the lead on the quarter hour when a long-range effort was parried by the home custodian Chris Fitzpatrick, however the rebound was smashed in by Joshua Payne. This goal jolted the Rockies into life as they then grew into the game causing the Westland defence some problems leading up to half time. However, they did not make their spell on top count as the half closed, HT 0-1. The 2<sup>nd</sup> half followed much the same pattern as the 1<sup>st</sup> but this time the visitors were more clinical in front of goal as further strikes from Payne, Oliver Wake & Henry Lawrence- Napier saw them run out 4 nil winners on the night.