

Sunday 5th August 2018

**Pre-Season Friendly Match at Hackney Marshes (South Marsh, Pitch 21)**

**Kick-Off:** 10.55.a.m. (Lexton late !)

**Result:** **DOWN**S..... 4 **EDMONTON ROVERS** ..... 4 **Half-Time:** 2-1

SHIRT NUMBER	TEAM (4-2-3-1)			GOAL TIMES
1	GK	Lexton HARRISON		
19	RB	Sam WOOLLEY		
15	CB	Curtis BAALAM	OFF (inj.) 38	
5	CB	Harold OFORI (Captain)	OFF 53	
2	LB	Ralph KATIKAZA	OFF (inj.) 24	
4	CM Holding	Nassir ALI	OFF HT / BACK ON 59	78 Mins.
16	CM Holding/CB 74	Daniel CASCOE	OFF 59 / BACK ON 74	
18	RM/LM 61	Nana OBENG	OFF HT / BACK ON 61	10, 85 Mins.
10	ACM	Jack BANGS	OFF HT	
3	LM/CB 53	Aiden KAVANAGH	OFF HT / BACK ON 53	
11	CF/RM HT	Daniel DALEY	OFF 56	47 Mins.
<b>SUBSTITUTES</b>				
6	LB	Oshade WATSON	ON 24	
20	CB	Dave NGUYEN	ON 38 / OFF 74	
17	CM Holding	Leon McKENZIE-McKAY	ON HT	
8	ACM	Andy AMADI	ON HT	
7	LM	Rafiel JOHNSON	ON HT / OFF 61	
14	CF	Nathan ALLEN	ON HT	
9	RM	Josh BAPTISTE	ON 56	
<b>OWN GOALS Scored For Us:</b>				

**MANAGER:** Tony McKay

**CLUB LINESMAN:** Not Required

**ATTENDANCE:** 26

**OTHER CLUB MEMBERS PRESENT:** L.Hughes, G.Baker, A.Ikramullah

**REFEREE:** Jordan Dixon-Walker

**REFEREE'S MARK (Out of 100):** N/A

**OPPONENTS' FAIR PLAY MARK (Out of 10):** N/A

**OUR FAIR PLAY MARK (Given by Opponents):** N/A

**BOOKINGS:** None

**SENDING-OFFS:** None

**WEATHER CONDITIONS:** Very Hot & Sunny.

**STATE OF PITCH:** No (green) grass, bone hard but flat.

**UNAVAILABILITY:** (11 Players) Grant Baker (GK) (Injured), Stephen Roussety (GK) (Other Commitments), Ayo Matthews (Away), Tyronne Petrie (Working), Tom Croake, Ivan Bass, Jordan Umpire, Henry Akinsanmi, Richard Harris, Daniel Allen (Other Commitments), Louie Short (Injured) **Sunday Morning Drop-Outs:** Vishal Patel (Illness)

**OPPONENTS' LINE-UP (4-4-2):** No Team Details

**OPPONENTS' GOALSCORERS:** No.7 (1, 53 Mins.), No.16 (20 Mins.), No.14 (84 Mins.)

**MATCH REPORT**

After using 60 different players last season and finishing perilously close to the bottom of the Barnet Sunday League Division One table as a result, we tried out another 5 new players for this first Pre-Season Friendly in the hope that they will be a bit more loyal and stay with us for a whole season at least. Our opponents Downs won Division Three of the five-division Hackney & Leyton Sunday League last season by a big margin, so this was always going to be a big test of our new players' ability. We made a terrible start though when our usual stand-in keeper Lexton Harrison turned up just a minute before the kick-off and then let in a goal at his near post from a harmless-looking low shot after just 33 seconds, but we bounced back well with Nana Obeng equalising just 10 minutes later with a cool finish in a one-on-one with the keeper after pouncing on a laughable miskick by a Downs defender. Although we were the better side for the first 20 minutes, we then found ourselves 2-1 down as Lexton had still not woken up and allowed a long flighted free-kick to sail straight into the net over his head. First Half injuries to defenders Ralph Katikaza (with cracked ribs) and Curtis Baalam (with a boot in the face) then brought back nasty memories of what we suffered from last season but we managed to escape from going further behind on a couple of occasions until we could re-group by making a number of changes at Half-Time. That saw us equalise just two minutes after the break when Daniel Daley showed good composure to pick his spot from close range after Rafiel Johnson had rattled a shot against the crossbar just after coming on for his first Rovers appearance for six years. However, another bad error by stand-in keeper Lexton Harrison allowed a Downs forward to make it 3-2 in the 53rd minute with a header into an empty net, but once again we bounced back to level the score with new signing Nassir Ali scoring his first goal for the club with a low shot into the bottom corner with 12 minutes remaining. Downs had some big strong players in their side though, and it was one of them who knocked several of our players around like skittles in a bowling alley to plough his way through in the 84th minute and put his side 4-3 up. However, our man-of-the-match Nana Obeng had the last word as he produced a deserved equaliser for us just a minute later with a tap-in after Nathan Allen's header had rebounded off the post, giving us a 4-4 draw in what turned out to be an ideal Pre-Season workout for us against very similar opponents. If we can just find a proper goalkeeper who can play every week, then we will certainly have a better season than last year on this evidence.