

Sunday 3rd September 2017

Pre-Season Friendly Match at the Ashton Playing Fields, Woodford Bridge

Kick-Off: 2.00.p.m.

Result: BELFRY 5 EDMONTON ROVERS 3 Half-Time: 2-1

SHIRT NUMBER	TEAM (4-1-4-1)			GOAL TIMES
1	GK	Stephen ROUSSEY		
5	RB/CM HT	Leon BERNARD	OFF 70	
6	CB	Ivan BASS		71 Mins.
16	CB	Harold OFORI		
2	LB	Aiden KAVANAGH		
18	CM Holding	Vishal PATEL	OFF 70	
11	RM/LM	Daniel DALEY	OFF 62	
17	CM	Leon McKENZIE-McKAY	OFF 75	
14	CM	George HOUSE	OFF HT	
15	LM/RM	Rhys McKAY	OFF HT	
9	CF	Ayo MATTHEWS	OFF 62	45 Mins.
SUBSTITUTES				
4	RB	Abz EL HABASSI	ON HT	
10	RM/CF 62	Jack BANGS	ON HT	
8	RM	Hal OZKAN	ON 62	
19	LM	Raj BUMBRA	ON 62	
7	CM	Lawrence KILL	ON 70	
3	CM Holding	Lucas CASCOE	ON 70	
12	CM	Tom CROAKE	ON 75	83 Mins.

OWN GOALS Scored For Us:

CARETAKER-MANAGERS: Roderick Bennett & Tyrone Petrie

CLUB LINESMAN: Hal Ozkan / George House

ATTENDANCE: 27

OTHER CLUB MEMBERS PRESENT: L.Hughes, D.Cascoe

REFEREE: Norman Redington

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

BOOKINGS: None

SENDING-OFFS: None

WEATHER CONDITIONS: Cloudy with stiff breeze down pitch (against us 1st Half) STATE OF PITCH: Dry & bobbly. Big pitch.

UNAVAILABILITY: (13 Players) Tony McKay (Manager), Bob Cleary (Goalkeeping Coach), Lexton Harrison (All Family Commitments), Curtis Baalam (Rib Injury), Daniel Cascoe (Broken Metatarsal), Miles Levy (Ankle Injury), Johan Ahipeaud (Injured), Chris Lue (Injured), Sergio Garcia & Khaheem McKenzie (Working), Grant Baker (GK) & Anees Ikramullah (Social Commitments), Taurean Bryan, Andreas Kriticos, Chris Kriticos (All Away) **Sunday Morning Drop-Outs:** None

OPPONENTS' LINE-UP (3-5-2): 1. Ben Greg (GK); 15. Billy Coyne (RCB), 18. Robbie Logan (CCB), 5. Jack Sawyer (LCB); 17. Luke MacDonald (RWB), 14. Kingsley Tatham (CM), 8. Dexter Terrell-Stuart (Captain...CM), 16. David Jones (CM), 7. Liam Hughes (LM); 9. Jamie Redington (CF), 10. Lee Newton (CF)

Subs.: 11. Daniel Lopes, 12. Patrick MacDonald, 6. Paul Wheeler

OPPONENTS' GOALSCORER: Newton (9 Mins.), Terrell-Stuart (15, 84, 89 Mins.), Coyne (47 Mins.)

MATCH REPORT

We decided to take on Essex Sunday Combination Premier Division side Belfry for our final Pre-Season Friendly despite already suffering three defeats to similar top-quality opponents. We also had Manager Tony McKay unavailable due to family commitments, but with Roderick Bennett & Tyrone Petrie able stand-ins for him and a squad of 18 turning up, we were confident of giving Belfry a close game, even though they were fielding a side packed with ex-Semi-Pros. Belfry soon took the lead in the 9th minute though when Lee Newton tapped in the rebound after Stephen Roussey had parried a shot from Jamie Redington, then we fell further behind in the 15th minute when Belfry skipper Dexter Terrell-Stuart made it 2-0 with an easy finish after running onto a long wind-assisted goal-kick with our players (and Club Linesman Hal Ozkan) all appealing for offside...except it can't be from a goal-kick of course. We settled down after that though and created numerous clear-cut chances for the rest of the First Half, but we had to wait until just before the Half-Time whistle to take one when Ayo Matthews pulled it back to 2-1 after a scramble in the area. We then made a couple of changes for the start of the Second Half with Abz El Habassi, a trialist brought along by Tyrone Petrie, coming on to make his debut at right-back, but we found ourselves 3-1 down just two minutes later when ex-AFC Hornchurch & Aveley player Billy Coyne hit a screamer into the top corner to give Stephen Roussey no chance. Again though, as we did in the First Half, we continued to squander numerous chances until we finally managed to pull another goal back in the 71st minute when Ivan Bass made it 3-2 from close range after a sweetly-struck half-volley from Aiden Kavanagh had rebounded off the crossbar. It was then that our large number of substitutes had an effect as our final one Tom Croake scored a brilliant solo goal in the 83rd minute to equalise, and with that momentum it looked like we could easily go on to win the game. However, one of Belfry's experienced ex-Semi-Pros Kingsley Tatham was a bit too clever for two of our younger subs Lawrence Kill and Lucas Cascoe just a minute later when he easily skipped past them to set up Terrell-Stuart to make it 4-3 with a low shot that squirmed in off keeper Roussey. Belfry then killed the game off with a 5th goal and a hat-trick for Terrell-Stuart in the 89th minute after another defensive mistake, but at least it was another good experience for us to play quality opposition and give a good account of ourselves.

LAURENCE HUGHES