

Sunday 14th January 2018

## Friendly Match at the Peter May Sports Centre, Walthamstow (Pitch 3)

**Kick-Off:** 10.37.a.m. (Cascoe, Lucas, Jack, Tyronne, Ayo & Vish all late !)

**Result:** CHINGFORD ATHLETIC..... 4 EDMONTON ROVERS ..... 1 *Half-Time: 1-0*

SHIRT NUMBER	TEAM (4-2-3-1)		GOAL TIMES
1	GK	Lexton HARRISON	
4	RB/LM 85	Chris KRITICOS	OFF 48 / BACK ON 83
16	CB	Curtis BAALAM	
15	CB	Tyronne PETRIE (Captain)	
14	LB	Oshade WATSON	OFF 75
7	CM Holding	Andreas KRITICOS	OFF HT
5	CM Holding/LB 75	Chris LUE	OFF HT / BACK ON 75
8	RM	Jordan UMPIRE	
10	ACM	Jack BANGS	
12	LM	Tom CROAKE	OFF (Inj.) 83
9	CF	Ayo MATTHEWS	60 Mins.
<b>SUBSTITUTES</b>			
17	CM Holding	Daniel CASCOE	ON HT
11	CM Holding	Lucas CASCOE	ON HT
18	RB	Vishal PATEL	ON 48

**OWN GOALS Scored For Us:**

**MANAGER:** Tony McKay

**CLUB LINESMAN:** Harold Ofori

**ATTENDANCE:** 10

**OTHER CLUB MEMBERS PRESENT:** L.Hughes, R.McKay (Later)

**REFEREE:** Daniel Jicu

**BOOKINGS:** Andreas Kriticos (Dissent...41 Mins.), James Reeves (Chingford Ath.) (Foul...75 Mins.) **SENDING-OFFS:** None

**WEATHER CONDITIONS:** Cloudy & Cold. No wind. **STATE OF PITCH:** Soft & muddy. Slope against us in Second Half.

**UNAVAILABILITY:** (12 Players) Grant Baker (GK) (Working), Stephen Roussety (GK) (Other Commitments), Taurean Bryan ('GK') (Injured), Leon McKenzie-McKay (Broken Ankle), Daniel Daley (Injured), Harold Ofori (Injured), Ivan Bass (Away), Anees Ikramullah (Other Commitments), Miles Levy (Other Commitments), Tre Maxwell (Studying in U.S.)

**Sunday Morning Drop-Outs:** George House ('No Show'), Jamie Mehmet ('No Show')

**OPPONENTS' LINE-UP (3-1-4-2):** 1. Jack Francis (GK); 2. Michael Davies (RCB), 6. Matt Thompson (CCB...Captain), 4. Jack Coker (LCB); 5. Luke Arnold (RWB), 12. James Clarke (RM), 15. John Austin (CM Holding), 10. Sam Matthews (LCM), 3. James Goodbun (LWB); 9. Michael Boahene (RCF), 11. Alex Foss (LCF)

**Subs.:** 8. Lee Bowers, 7. James Reeves, 14. Tom Barnes (All Roll-On, Roll-Off)

**OPPONENTS' GOALSCORERS:** Boahene (23 Mins.), Barnes (51 Mins.), Bowers (57 Mins.), Arnold (71 Mins.)

### MATCH REPORT

We managed to arrange this Friendly match at very short notice after Chingford Athletic suddenly contacted us the day before to say they had been let down by their opponents crying off for a League game and that they had a pitch and Referee available. Although we were missing a ridiculous amount of key players once again though, we were desperate for a game after six weeks of inactivity. Our squad of 14 that eventually turned up (a minute before the scheduled kick-off time !) included new players Oshade Watson and Jordan Umpire, both of whom had attended a rare training session for us during the week, but with all our goalkeepers unavailable, Lexton Harrison 'had to' volunteer for that position on this occasion, while the likes of Andreas and Chris Kriticos, Chris Lue and the Cascoe brothers all had a runout as outfield players when none of them had been regulars so far this season. A lack of teamwork with our players not knowing each others' names was therefore always going to be a problem in addition to the understandable rustiness and lack of fitness, but we did well to make most of the First Half quite an even game against a Chingford Athletic side who have been one of the better sides in Division Two of the five-division Essex Sunday Corinthian League so far this season. We did concede in the 23rd minute though when our defence was split by a good through ball and Chingford's top scorer Michael Boahene ran on to finish easily, but a narrow 1-0 lead for them at Half-Time was a fair reflection of the First Half. It was far more difficult for us in the Second Half though as we were kicking up a big slope, and with both teams fielding squads of 14, our substitutes were unable to make a difference while others started struggling with their fitness and the heavy pitch. That saw Chingford go 2-0 up just 6 minutes into the Second Half when their right wing-back Luke Arnold dispossessed Tom Croake and crossed for substitute Tom Barnes to glance the ball in past a stranded Lexton Harrison. That was when their far superior teamwork really took over as their Player-Manager Lee Bowers scored a quality goal in the 57th minute from a good move that we couldn't do much about, but Ayo Matthews gave us a bit of pride just three minutes later when he pulled a goal back with a clever finish from Tom Croake's through ball to make it 3-1. In fact we could have made it 3-2 in the 71st minute but Tom made a mess of an attempted close-range volley and Chingford's Luke Arnold then made us pay for that by beating Lexton to the ball to make it 4-1 after our defenders allowed the drop-kick from the keeper to bounce behind them. We did have another chance to make the scoreline a bit more respectable when we were awarded a rather fortunate penalty for a handball in the 78th minute, but Jack Bangs drilled the spot-kick against the post. 4-1 was how it finished, which was our 9th game in a row without a win, but at least it was better than sitting at home doing nothing again, and the positives were Ayo's dodgy hamstring getting through the match unscathed and Oshade, Jordan and Lucas all showing some nice touches from time to time.