

Sunday 22nd October 2017

Barnet Sunday League Division One Match at the Edmonton Sports & Social Club (Pitch Two)

Kick-Off: 10.30.a.m.

Result: EDMONTON ROVERS..... 0 CHURCHBURY 5 Half-Time: 0-3

SHIRT NUMBER	TEAM (4-3-3 / 4-2-3-1 36)	GOAL TIMES
1	GK Taurean BRYAN	
2	RB Lexton HARRISON	OFF 68
16	CB Ivan BASS	
5	CB Harold OFORI	
17	LB Curtis BAALAM	
18	RCM/LCM 21/CM Hold 36/ACM 55 Vishal PATEL	OFF 62
20	CM/CM Holding 36 Tyronne PETRIE	
15	LCM/ RCM 21/ACM 36 George HOUSE	OFF 52
11	RM/LM Daniel DALEY	OFF 69
9	CF/ACM 62 Jack BANGS	
8	LM/RM Leon McKENZIE-McKAY (Captain)	
SUBSTITUTES		
12	ACM/CM Holding 55 Andreas KRITICOS	ON 52
10	CF/RM 69 Tom CROAKE	ON 62
3	RB Chris KRITICOS	ON 68
7	CF Hal OZKAN	ON 69

OWN GOALS Scored For Us:

MANAGER: Tony McKay

CLUB LINESMAN: Bob Cleary

ATTENDANCE: 21

OTHER CLUB MEMBERS PRESENT: L.Hughes, R.Bennett, S.Roussety

REFEREE: Michael McPherson

BOOKINGS: None

SENDING-OFFS: None

WEATHER CONDITIONS: Sunny spells but strong cold wind down pitch (against us in the Second Half)

STATE OF PITCH: Perfect.

UNAVAILABILITY: (10 Players) Grant Baker (GK) (Working), Stephen Roussety (GK) (Finger Injury), Abz El-Habassi (GK) (Knee Injury), Ayo Matthews (Hamstring Injury), Anees Ikramullah (Family Commitments), Miles Levy (Working), Aiden Kavanagh (Uni), Khaheem McKenzie (Working), Johan Ahipeaud (Disappeared) **Sunday Morning Drop-Outs:** Rhys McKay (No Show)

OPPONENTS' LINE-UP (4-1-4-1): 1. Curtis Giron-Towers (GK); 2. Luke Bristow (RB), 5. Charalambous Panayiotou (CB), 6. Matthew Milson (CB...Captain), 3. Ricky Visocchi (LB); 4. Tom Dean (CM Holding); 7. Josh Stevens (RM), 9. Neil Adams (CM), 8. Edward Keeble (CM), 11. Jamie Stevens (LM); 10. George Ellinas (CF)

Subs.: 12. Craig Whitaker, 16. Jack Johnston, 15. Dan Youens, 14. Jake Bullot. (All on during the Second Half)

OPPONENTS' GOALSCORERS: Bristow (4 Mins.), Baalam (Own Goal) (40 Mins.), Jamie Stevens (45+2 Mins.), Ellinas (51 Mins.), Keeble (56 Mins.)

MATCH REPORT

Our opponents Churchbury came into this game as unbeaten Division One leaders having scored 23 goals in their previous three matches, while they were also fielding more-or-less a full-strength side. In contrast, we had suffered a bad defeat the week before and were missing numerous key players including top scorer Ayo Matthews, both of our left-sided players Miles Levy & Aiden Kavanagh, and all three of our 'proper' goalkeepers. Our three wins against Churchbury last season were therefore unlikely to be repeated this time, especially as they had strengthened their side considerably after finishing Runners-Up to us. That became evident almost right from the first whistle, as Right-Back Luke Bristow headed Churchbury into the lead after just 4 minutes from a right-wing cross after we had failed to clear a free-kick in the near gale-force wind. Our stand-in goalkeeper Taurean Bryan then had to make a number of good saves to stop them going further ahead until an Own Goal from Curtis Baalam made it 2-0 in the 40th minute when a whipped in corner hit him on the knee at the far post after Taurean missed his punch. We probably didn't deserve that at the time though, as we had created a few chances of our own at the other end, but we then suffered a killer blow right on the Half-Time whistle when the League's top scorer Jamie Stevens (who had scored a hat-trick in each of his last three games) flicked the ball past Ivan Bass and raced away to score from an acute angle to make it 3-0 at the break. As we knew we would be facing the strong wind in the Second Half, it was difficult for our players to get motivated after that and we fell further behind in the 51st minute when Churchbury's lone striker George Ellinas made it 4-0 with a good first-time finish after Harold Ofori mis-controlled a left-wing cross. It then got even worse when midfielder Edward Keeble made it 5-0 just five minutes later with a close range finish after a good move which left our defenders treading water, and with 34 minutes still to play, it looked at that stage as if Churchbury were going to score 10 again like they had against Hornsey & Highgate a few weeks back...and that really would have been embarrassing. Thankfully though, the gradual introduction of substitutes Andreas Kriticos, Tom Croake, Chris Kriticos & Hal Ozkan steadied the ship and we managed to complete a damage limitation exercise thereafter. Once again though, it was injuries, fitness problems and players playing in unsuitable positions that was the problem for us, and unfortunately we will just have to keep on experimenting until something finally clicks into place where we can start playing like we did last season..