

Sunday 27th September 2015

London FA Sunday Junior Cup First Round Match at the Edmonton Sports & Social Club (Grocers Pitch 5)

Kick-Off: 10.35.a.m. (Referee taking his time)

Result: **EDMONTON ROVERS**.....3 **CLUB LIXUS** 2 Half-Time: 2-0

SHIRT NUMBER	TEAM (4-2-3-1 / 4-4-2 83)		GOAL TIMES
1	GK	Grant BAKER	
18	RB	Martin CRUICKSHANK	
17	CH	Ivan BASS	OFF 62
5	CH	Alan BARNARD	
14	LB/CH 79	Lexton HARRISON (Captain)	
3	CM	Terry MOORE	
7	CM	Tem ADIL	OFF 83
8	RM	Chris AKINRELE	42 Mins.
9	ACM/CM 83	Leon McKENZIE-McKAY	
11	LM	Daniel DALEY	OFF 75
15	CF	Ryan BATES	7 Mins.
SUBSTITUTES			
12	LB	George STAHLMANN	ON 62
19	LM	Eric IBEKWEM	ON 75
10	CF	Jack BANGS	ON 83

OWN GOALS Scored For Us:

MANAGER: Simon Jackson

ATTENDANCE: 13

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

REFEREE: Wade Lindo

BOOKINGS: Daniel Daley & Ruben Laurence (Club Lixus) (Ungentlemanly Conduct...22 Mins.), Martin Cruickshank (Dissent...44 Mins.)

SENDING-OFFS: None

WEATHER CONDITIONS: Sunny & Warm

STATE OF PITCH: Firm

CLUB LINESMAN: George Stahlmann / Eric Ibekwem / Daniel Cascoe

OTHER CLUB MEMBERS PRESENT: L.Hughes, D.Hagan, D.Green

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

REFEREE'S MARK (Out of 100): **CONFIDENTIAL**

UNAVAILABILITY: (9 Players) Danny Hagan (Injured), Gavin Mardell (Away), Rafiel Johnson (Working), Scott Jenkins (Injured), Leon Bernard (Injured ?), Daniel Cascoe (Injured), Stephen Shellard (Away), Ben Taylor (Injured)

Saturday/Sunday Drop-Outs: Tyronne Petrie (Working)

OPPONENTS' LINE-UP (4-3-3): 1. Ahmed Baryan (GK); 2. Amran El-Kounany (RB), 5. Jason Rousi (CH), 4. Prince Kartel (CH...Captain), 3. Saeed Salah (LB); 10. Mickey Mason (RM), 8. Gareth Elias (CM Holding), 6. Najim Jebari (LM); 11. Cairo Marfuz (RM), 7. Ruben Laurence (CF), 9. Jabir Lima (LM)

Subs.: 13. Isa Rodriguez (On at Half-Time for El-Kounany), 14. Otmani Taghi (Not Used), 12. Hassun Harir (Not Used)

OPPONENTS' GOALSCORERS: Laurence (55 Mins.), Mason (63 Mins.)

MATCH REPORT

Our first-ever match at our new Home ground (the Edmonton Sports & Social Club) saw us take on West London-based side Club Lixus in the First Round of the London FA Sunday Junior Cup, and with our opponents having a 100% record so far this season at the top of the Premier Division of their League (the Sportsmans Senior Sunday), we knew were likely to be in for a tough game. We had the first two clear-cut chances of the match in the first four minutes though which were missed by Daniel Daley and Leon McKenzie-McKay despite only having the keeper to beat, but then Grant Baker had to make the first of many vital saves shortly after that before Daley gave us the lead after just seven minutes with a good early finish after being put through by Ryan Bates. We then spent the rest of the half mainly trying to defend against wave after wave of Club Lixus attacks, but we managed to come off at Half-Time 2-0 up when Chris Akinrele pounced on a mistake by Lixus skipper Prince Kartel three minutes before the break to deftly chip keeper Baryan from just outside the area. Although we had a good Half-Time team-talk where Manager Simon Jackson told our players to keep their heads, Club Lixus predictably pulled a goal back in the 55th minute when Ruben Laurence whipped a perfect free-kick into the top corner, then when Grant Baker made his only mistake of the match in the 63rd minute to gift midfielder Micky Mason with a tap-in after fumbling a harmless-looking shot, it looked as if we were going to be swamped because of our lack of defending from the front where our three attacking midfielders kept getting caught out time after time in not chasing back. However, Club Lixus then wasted numerous chances and substitute Eric Ibekwem made them pay for that by scoring what proved to be the winner in the 84th minute when Chris Akinrele put him through to chip the ball in past keeper Baryan from an acute angle for another excellent finish. We then actually looked really solid defensively for the first time in the match for the last six minutes in holding out for the win, but we will need to work on our teamwork a bit more if we want to progress any further in this competition as we most certainly got caught out too many times here whereby our attacking players played a pressing game and our defenders didn't, thereby leaving too big a gap in midfield for Club Lixus's quick and skilful players to run straight through us at will. We were very grateful in the end for three excellent finishes, Club Lixus letting us off the hook with their finishing, and that Grant Baker was our Man-Of-The-Match once again.

LAURENCE HUGHES