

Sunday 15th February 2004				
Mercury Waltham Sunday League (Division Four) Match at Enfield Playing Fields (Pitch 17)				
DYSONS ROVERS	1	EDMONTON ROVERS RESERVES	2	HT 1-0
Day (40 mins.)		Mc,Kay (47 mins.), L.Harrison (78 mins)		

Dysons Rovers Line-Up: No Team Details

Edmonton Rovers Line-Up (with Marks out of 10): Darryl JOHNSON (GK) (7); Lee OSBORN (7), Matt STEELL (7), Paul REBAIRO (7), Terry DELLER (7); Jerome HARRISON (7), Brian KAMUTEKU (7½), Peter MURPHY (7), Barry MATTHEWS (7); Lexton HARRISON (7), Myron Mc,KAY (7) **Subs.:** Mashood BURAHÉE (7), Foyso! AHMED (6½), Ali AHMED (6½)

Referee: Peter JONES

Weather Conditions: Cold & Cloudy

Attendance: ?

Report (by Laurence Hughes from information supplied by Mark Howley & Paul Rebairo): Despite the encouraging performances in our Reserve Team's last two matches, we were in a little bit of disarray as we arrived for this match as Scott Robertson had pulled out with an injury during the week and obviously had no intention of coming along to watch, despite the fact that he had the kit in his possession after volunteering to wash it the previous week ! When he suddenly realised, he then took it round to Russell Beeden (who of course only lives just round the corner from him), but Russell was not attending this match as he was stand-in First Team Manager for the day...and as Russell does not drive, it meant Paul Rebairo had to get the kit off Russell at the last minute before Russell left for the First Team's match (a very tight schedule !). Rebairo managed to get the kit in time, but then received a phone call from Lee Osborn wrongly telling him we were meeting at the Central Pavilion changing rooms instead of the Donkey Lane end ! Rebairo therefore drove into the Ladysmith Road car park (at about 10.15.a.m. !?) and then received another phone call as Osborn had been wondering where everybody was and suddenly found out he was at the wrong end...and of course so was Rebairo, who then tried to drive his van out of the Ladysmith Road car park through all the logs and bushes and across the Playing Fields (illegally of course ?) in a mad dash to get the kit over to the Donkey Lane end without going back out onto Southbury Road and the A10. However, his van then got stuck in mud and wouldn't move at all (unless the other 13 squad members helped him to push it...which they had to *after* the match !), so he therefore had to walk all the way over to Donkey Lane with the kit, leaving himself knackered, 14 players with just two minutes to get changed and a probable fine by the League for an eventual late kick-off.

Of course this was made even more embarrassing by the fact that Dysons Rovers were already out on the pitch undertaking their usual extensive Pre-Match warm-up routine in their sponsored tracksuits (with a female physio/trainer !?) as Rebairo walked past them !

However, we shrugged all that off once the match got under way and played really well early on, forcing Dysons Rovers back into their own half and causing their defence plenty of problems, despite us missing attacking midfielder Leon Mc,Kenzie-Mc,Kay, who had been called up to the First Team squad.

Our first real chance came after 20 minutes when Matt Steell made a run from the back to get in a firm header from Peter Murphy's cross, but the Dysons keeper made a good save. Dysons though had won their last three matches very convincingly and they started to get into the game as the half wore on, but it was a mistake by Barry Matthews which gifted them the lead five minutes before Half-Time when he lost concentration and allowed Dysons midfielder Jamie Day (Paul Rebairo's Cousin !) a clear run on goal and he finished well in a one-on-one with Darryl Johnson.

Our heads went down a bit after that, but we survived without conceding another before Half-Time and then came out very positively after the break with Myron Mc,Kay managing to equalise just two minutes into the Second Half when he chased down Paul Rebairo's long clearance to force a mistake in the Dysons defence before flicking the ball past the oncoming keeper.

We then had another couple of good chances shortly afterwards with both Peter Murphy and Lexton Harrison being thwarted by the Dysons' keeper, but we had to wait until the 78th minute to score what proved to be the winner, as Brian 'Vieira' Kamuteku produced a sublime piece of skill in midfield before putting Lexton Harrison in on goal to produce a similar sort of finish to that which he came up with for Goal B on last season's [Goal Of The Season Video Clips](#) (and the *other* five he scored in that match !). That sort of thing was what we were expecting Lexton to do more often in Division Four this season, but he had had an indifferent game *again* before scoring that goal, although hopefully he will now get his confidence back.

After that though, Dysons pushed forward and put us under a lot of pressure and we had a let-off when a header struck the upright with Darryl Johnson beaten, while we were lucky to survive from a scramble from the rebound.

We managed to hang on to complete a double over Dysons though, which no other team in the Division has managed yet (although Hoddesdon Snooker Club & Oakwood United still have a chance to do so) and it was encouraging to hear them say (to Rebairo ?!) that we were the best team they have played so far this season, especially as they have a 3-0 win over Division One side Hinton Rangers in the Roy Bailey Challenge Cup under their belts !

Things are really looking up for the Reserve Team now then, particularly regarding players attitudes once they are out on the pitch, even if there are one or two things still to be sorted out regarding turning up on time (or at all !), paying Subs and picking up silly Bookings...Matt Steell being the culprit on this occasion after presumably looking at the [All-Time Disciplinary Records Page](#) and aiming for Dave Ashton's crown after a 'crunching two-footed challenge' (according to

Rebairo) !?

[Click Here](#) to visit Dysons Rovers' website. (A report will hopefully appear on there shortly).