

* - SUBSTITUTED

SUNDAY 10TH MARCH 2002

MERCURY WALTHAM SUNDAY LEAGUE (DIVISION ONE) MATCH AT HOME TO GALLEY HALL

KICK-OFF 10.35 PM. (GALLEY HALL LATE) AT HAZELWOOD SPORTS GROUND

Score: EDMONTON ROVERS 2 GALLEY HALL 0 HALF-TIME: 0-0

TEAM	MARKS OUT OF 10	SCORERS
1. GK ¹ Stavros ELIA	6½	
2. RB ² Robin PRYKE	7½	
3. LB ³ Steve BEASLEY (CAPTAIN)	7½	
4. RM ¹⁴ Lee OSBORN	7	
5. SW ⁷ Stuart DORWARD	7	
6. CM ⁶ Paul WOOLSTON	7	
7. CM ⁸ Marco ELLERKER	7	
8. CM ¹¹ Derek DORWARD	7	87 mins,
9. CF ⁵ Steve COKELL	7	
10. CM ¹⁰ Conor McGOVERN	7½	56 mins,
11. LM ⁴ John BEASLEY	7½	
12. CM ¹⁵ Scott ROBERTSON	6½	
14. - ¹⁶ Paul REBARO	-	
15. - ¹⁷ Gary ODELL	-	
16. -	-	
17. -	-	

OPPONENTS' GOAL TIMES: —

OTHER CLUB MEMBERS PRESENT: L. HUGHES, T. BEEDEN, R. BEEDEN, D. BARNALL

CROWD: 13

CLUB LINEUPMAN: TREVOR HUGHES

REFEREE: BOB SHALWELL

BOOKING: ROCCO TORIA (GALLEY HALL) (38 mins)

REFEREE'S MARK (OUT OF 10): 8

SENDING OFFS: —

WEATHER CONDITIONS: CLOUDY BUT DRY. COLD GALE-FORCE WIND DOWN PITCH (AGAINST US IN 1ST HALF)

STATE OF PITCH: DRY, BUT FLAT! (GARE IN MIDDLE). GRASS CUT!

Report: After a number of fairly 'easy' victories against supposedly weaker opposition, we knew we were in for a much sterner test in this game with third-placed Galley Hall having one of the meanest defences in the League and a recent record of only one defeat in their last eight matches...and that being after Extra Time in a Cup game against in-form Premier Division side White Hart. However, their 0-0 draw against bottom club Abbey Youth Old Boys the previous week highlighted Galley Hall's biggest problem this season, namely their inability to score, and even though they had the advantage of a gale-force wind behind them in the First Half they failed to test Stavros Elia at all as they persisted in trying long-range shots that sailed harmlessly wide. However, we were very strong defensively as well, despite missing sweeper Tony Speller who was away in Dublin for the weekend with his girlfriend, and Paul Woolston's experience at where to defend deep and 'hold the line' against a strong wind proved to be invaluable as we comfortably held out for a 0-0 Half-Time scoreline.

Galley Hall though, were fielding a much stronger side than the one we defeated 3-2 at Presdales back in December with several more ex-Hoddesdon Town team-mates of Stuart Dorward, Conor McGovern and Steve Cokell in their line-up this time, although they were missing their regular goalkeeper Martin Hicks and one or two others.

However, stand-in keeper Mark Moring (normally an outfield player) couldn't be blamed for letting in Conor McGovern's fiercely-driven shot on the turn from the edge of the area which finished off an excellent move to give us the lead in the 56th minute and he also did well to save John Beasley's long-range shot in the 87th minute which led to Derek Dorward converting the rebound to make the game safe for us.

Although the wind ruined the match at times (with several instances of goal kicks travelling only 10 yards and almost going backwards and off for a corner!), we still managed to play really well again with nobody having a bad game and Lee Osborn played his part with some good defending having been preferred in the starting line-up to Scott Robertson for tactical reasons. We therefore fully deserved our victory (our eighth League win in a row) as we kept a clean sheet at Hazelwood for the fifth match running!