

Sunday 11th February 2018

DOUBLE-HEADER - Second of 2 x 60-Minute Matches (30 Minutes each way)

Barnet Sunday League Division One Match at Clowes Sports Ground, Winchmore Hill (Bigger Pitch)

Kick-Off: 12.30.p.m. (45 Mins late due to late start of first match then taking goalnets down and putting them up again !)

Result: **EDMONTON ROVERS**..... 2 **GRANGE PARK** 3 **Half-Time:** 1-0

SHIRT NUMBER	TEAM (4-4-2)		GOAL TIMES
1	GK	Taurean BRYAN	
4	RB/CB 48	Sam WOOLLEY	
15	CB	Ivan BASS	OFF (Inj.) 48
5	CB	Harold OFORI (Captain)	
14	LB	Oshade WATSON	
20	RM	Nana OBENG	
10	CM	George HOUSE	
8	CM	Ben BOOTHROYD	
11	LM	Valentine LAURENCE	OFF HT
7	CF	Ayo MATTHEWS	26 Mins. (Pen.)
6	CF/RM HT/CF 54	Jack BANGS	
SUBSTITUTES			
9	CF	Godfrey TAY	ON HT / OFF (Inj.) 54
18	RB	Anees IKRAMULLAH	ON 48
12	LM	Brandon SOLOMON	ON 54
OWN GOALS Scored For Us:			

MANAGER: Tony McKay

CLUB LINESMAN: Not Required by Referee

ATTENDANCE: 18

OTHER CLUB MEMBERS PRESENT: L.Hughes, L.Harrison, H.Akinsanmi, D.Cascoe, G.Baker, A.Toppin, T.Solomon

REFEREE: Michael McPherson

BOOKINGS: George House (Foul... 55 Mins.), Jimmie Brennan (Grange Park) (Foul...57 Mins.) **SENDING-OFFS:** None

WEATHER CONDITIONS: Mainly Sunny with freezing cold wind down pitch (against us in Second Half).

STATE OF PITCH: Very soft & muddy. Churned-up through the middle.

UNAVAILABILITY: (10 Players) Grant Baker (GK) (Working), Leon McKenzie-McKay (Broken Ankle), Tyronne Petrie (Working), Curtis Balaam (Working), Vishal Patel (Ankle Injury), Aiden Kavanagh (Futsal), Tom Croake (Family Commitments)

Sunday Morning Drop-Outs: Daniel Daley (Family Commitments), Daniel Cascoe (Forgot his boots !), Jordan Umpire (No Show !)

OPPONENTS' LINE-UP (4-4-2): 1. Shaun Moore (GK); 2. Joe Purvis (RB), 12. Adrian Hoxhaj (CB), 20. Ricky Brennan (CB), 15. Berkhan Kartal (LB); 7. Joe Stone (RM), 9. Matt Line (CM...Captain), 18. Steve Casey (CM), 8. Josh Johnson (LM); 4. Jimmie Brennan (CF), 17. Jordan Solanke (CF) **Subs.:** 10. Dale Reilly (On at HT for Solanke), 6. Harry Pell, 16. Tom Sullivan

OPPONENTS' GOALSCORERS: R.Brennan (44, 55 Mins.), Stone (50 Mins.)

MATCH REPORT

With us turning up with a squad of 17, Manager Tony McKay was able to play six fresh players in the starting line-up for this second match who had not played in the first match, while Grange Park were only able to start with two players who had not been required for that first game. That therefore gave us an advantage that I don't think we have ever had in a Double-Header before, as in previous years we have invariably only turned up with a bare eleven for these sort of fixtures. We were also now playing on a slightly better pitch than the one used for the first match as the wind was so strong it had dried it out a bit while we were churning up the next pitch ! Having to take the goalnets down and put them up on a more playable pitch meant this second game kicked-off 45 minutes late, but thankfully only Jamie Mehmet and Club Linesman/Goalkeeping Coach Bob Cleary were unable to stay due to prior commitments and we fielded another side full of interesting possibilities with two more players making their debuts and another playing in his first competitive match for the club. With the strong wind behind us in the First Half we had by far the better chances in the first 30 minutes, but we had to wait until the 26th minute to take the lead when Valentine Laurence converted from the penalty spot after being brought down just inside in the area by Grange Park right-back Joe Purvis. With Grange Park having the wind behind them for the Second Half and having a stand-in goalkeeper in Taurean Bryan to take pot-shots at though, ideally we needed to have a bigger lead going into the break, so it was mainly all about how well we could defend, although Ivan Bass was unlucky not to make it 2-0 in the 37th minute when he got an effort in from a corner as usual, but keeper Moore made a brilliant save from point-blank range. In fact it took Grange Park until the 44th minute to find an equaliser after having created no clear-cut chances at all either in the first match or so far in this match. Once again though it was a failure to defend a set-piece that led to it as we were unable to clear a long throw and Ricky Brennan hit a snap-shot into the far bottom corner from the loose ball before anybody else could react. Indeed we then found ourselves 2-1 down just six minutes later when another set-piece saw Joe Stone sneak in round the back of our defence to volley in a quality Brennan free-kick that we couldn't do much about, but substitute Godfrey Tay pulled us back into the game against the run of play just two minutes later when he made it 2-2 with a fierce drive from close range that gave keeper Moore no chance. As in the first match though, we ended up losing the game by conceding a terrible goal from yet another Brennan free-kick in the 55th minute that was just floated into the area but evaded everybody to squirm in under Taurean Bryan's dive. There was no coming back from that and we were a bit demoralised on the final whistle, but looking back on these two games we can certainly be pleased with the performances of all our new players and the future certainly looks bright if they can stay with us until the end of this season at least.