

Sunday 18th November 2018

Barnet Sunday League Division One Match at the St. Aloysius Sports Ground, Highgate

Kick-Off: 10.50.a.m. (Referee late)

Result: **HIGHGATE ALBION RESERVES 2** **EDMONTON ROVERS** 1 **Half-Time:** 1-1

SHIRT NUMBER	TEAM (4-4-2 / 3-1-4-1 80)			GOAL TIMES
1	GK	Ian WHITMORE		
4	RB	Lexton HARRISON		
6	RCB	Richard HARRIS (Captain)		
5	LCB	Harold OFORI		
19	LB	Troy BLAKE		
10	RM	Jack BANGS		
18	CM	Henry AKINSANMI		
8	CM	Furmaan KHAN		
3	LM	Aiden KAVANAGH		
12	CF	Tom CROAKE	OFF 80	13 Mins.
9	CF	Ayo MATTHEWS		
SUBSTITUTES				
16	CM Holding	Daniel CASCOE	ON 80	
2	Not Used	Oshade WATSON		
15	Not Used	Ashley-James SMITH		
20	Not Used	Dave NGUYEN		
OWN GOALS Scored For Us:				

MANAGER: Roderick Bennett

CLUB LINESMAN: Bob Cleary

ATTENDANCE: 19

OTHER CLUB MEMBERS PRESENT: L.Hughes

REFEREE: ?

BOOKINGS: None ?

SENDING-OFFS: None

WEATHER CONDITIONS: Sunny but cold with stiff breeze across the pitch

STATE OF PITCH: Perfect

UNAVAILABILITY: (18 Players): Leon McKenzie-McKay, Nassir Ali, Mohamed Ali, Ivan Bass, Mustafa Farhan, Rafiel Johnson, Nathan Allen, Vishal Patel (All Injured), Eni Bezati (Working), Tyrone Petrie, Curtis Baalam (Both Away), Sam Woolley, Daniel Daley, Nana Obeng, Said Said, Jordan Umpire, Josh Baptiste, Louis Bennett (All Other Commitments)

Sunday Morning Drop-Outs: None

OPPONENTS' LINE-UP (4-2-3-1): 1. Graham Loki (GK); 3. Jordan Ellis (RB), 14. Nick Lynch (RCB), 5. Sylvester Mbagwu (LCB), 23. Lawrence Matthewman (LB); 11. Joe Earle (CM Holding), 19. Liam Donnelly (CM Holding); 9. Mark Doyle (RM), 6. Marlon Jackson (ACM), 18. Adam Tripp (LM); 99. Nnamdi Odum (CF)

Subs. 7. Luke Kavanagh (On for Jackson - 30 Mins.), 10. Pele Riley & 4. Marc Turpin (On for Odum & Matthewman - 63 Mins.)

OPPONENTS' GOALSCORERS: Tripp (33 Mins.), Doyle (90+2 Mins.)

MATCH REPORT

Both teams came into this match after a week off due to a waterlogged pitch at our Home ground the previous Sunday when we had been due to play each other over there. That did us a favour as we would have only been fielding a bare eleven or maybe even less, but we were boosted for this match by Harold Ofori and Henry Akinsanmi being available to play their first games of the season, while Troy Blake was also back after a lengthy absence. Manager Tony McKay was still away on holiday though, and with coaches Tyrone Petrie & Leon McKenzie-McKay also unavailable, Assistant Manager Roderick Bennett decided to start with a 4-4-2 formation this time. That really caught our opponents out as they would have been watching us on You Tube play with only one up front all season so far, and that saw us take the lead after 13 minutes when Tom Croake and Ayo Matthews forced a mistake from the Highgate defence which saw Croake go through to slip the ball under keeper Graham Loki. We then continued to look the better side for the next 20 minutes and could have extended our lead on more than one occasion, but then Highgate equalised from their first real chance of the match in the 33rd minute as they caught us on the break after Furmaan Khan's shot had been well saved from a corner, with their attacking players sprinting away from us to set up skipper Adam Tripp with an easy tap-in at the far post to make it 1-1. Highgate then started to show the sort of form that had brought them four wins out of four in Division One so far this season by closing down our midfield players more quickly and denying Ayo Matthews & Tom Croake any service, so with us having no attacking options on the bench whatsoever with numerous first-choice players unavailable it was all about holding on for a point for the rest of the match with some well-organised defending that included clearances off the line from Jack Bangs and Harold Ofori, a couple of excellent saves from Ian Whitmore, and some strong challenges to block attempted shots. We did have several chances ourselves to put players clean through on goal though, but after good build-up play, the final ball was invariably just slightly over-hit. We were then made to pay for that when Highgate won the game in the second minute of added-on time right at the end when Lexton Harrison misjudged a right-wing cross from a quick break and allowed Mark Doyle to make it 2-1 with an easy close-range finish. Highgate then missed another clear-cut chance straight afterwards which would have been harsh on us as we deserved a point from the game, but two of Highgate's three substitutes were attacking players who made an impact and that was what won them the game in the end, leaving them top of the table and ourselves now rooted to the bottom.