

Sunday 7th October 2018

London F.A. Sunday Junior Cup, First Round Match at the Edmonton Sports & Social Club (Pitch Two)

Kick-Off: 10.30.a.m.

Result: EDMONTON ROVERS..... 7 ITALIA WASTEELS 1 Half-Time: 5-0

SHIRT NUMBER	TEAM (4-2-3-1)			GOAL TIMES
1	GK	Ian WHITMORE		
7	RB	Lexton HARRISON	OFF 81	
6	RCB	Richard HARRIS		
5	LCB	Troy BLAKE		
3	LB	Aiden KAVANAGH		2 Mins.
16	CM Holding	Curtis BAALAM (Captain)		43 Mins.
17	CM Holding	Nassir ALI	OFF 71	16 Mins.
19	RM	Nana OBENG	OFF 80	9, 73 Mins.
10	ACM	Jack BANGS		
12	LM	Tom CROAKE	OFF 61	
9	CF	Ayo MATTHEWS	OFF 68	41 Mins.
SUBSTITUTES				
11	LM	Daniel DALEY	ON 61	
8	CF	Leon McKENZIE-McKAY	ON 68	
4	CM Holding	Oshade WATSON	ON 71	
14	RM	Mohamed ALI	ON 80	83 Mins.
15	RB	Said SAID	ON 81	

OWN GOALS Scored For Us:

MANAGER: Tony McKay

CLUB LINESMAN: Bob Cleary

ATTENDANCE: 16

OTHER CLUB MEMBERS PRESENT: L.Hughes, R.Bennett, D.Cascoe, S.Woolley, D.Nguyen

REFEREE: Bruno Gaisie

BOOKINGS: None

SENDING-OFFS: None

WEATHER CONDITIONS: Sunny. No wind.

STATE OF PITCH: Perfect

UNAVAILABILITY: (9 Players) Sam Woolley, Daniel Cascoe, Rafiel Johnson, Eni Bezati, Ivan Bass, Nathan Allen, Vishal Patel (All Injured), Tyronne Petrie (Working), Harold Ofori (Away - Working Abroad) **Sunday Morning Drop-Outs:** None

OPPONENTS' LINE-UP (4-4-1-1): 1. Michael Boxall (GK); 13. Lee Stroud (RB), 5. Mark Di Cesare (RCB), 6. Gianluca De Paoli (LCB), 19. Marco Marchini (LB...Captain); 21. Jayesh Thawrani (RM), 7. Riccardo Marchini (RCM), 11. Rodolfo Di Frisco (LCM), 8. Valon Dedinga (LM) (Off injured 48 Mins); 9. Amir Prebreza (ACM); 14. Isa Thaqi (CF) Subs: None

OPPONENTS' GOALSCORER: Thaqi (47 Mins.)

MATCH REPORT

We started off our London F.A. Sunday Junior Cup campaign this season with a Home First Round tie against Dulwich-based Italia Wasteels, a well-known club from the Orpington & Bromley Sunday League who have been in existence even longer than we have. As such, this was a fixture that could have had a fair bit of appeal to many neutrals in the media who follow the game at grassroots level, but unfortunately our opponents turned up with just a bare eleven after a number of their regular players declined to make the long journey, and with ourselves fielding a strong squad which included Leon McKenzie-McKay making a welcome return from injury, it was always going to be a game that we were likely to win fairly comfortably. Indeed we took the lead after just two minutes when Aiden Kavanagh tapped in on the goal-line after Wasteels keeper Michael Boxall had parried Troy Blake's shot low shot from a half-cleared corner, then we only had to wait until the 9th minute to increase our lead as Nana Obeng cut inside onto his left foot to make it 2-0 with an excellent finish. Wasteels then gave us a scare when midfielder Valon Dedinga went clean through from a long ball, but Ian Whitmore came to the rescue by narrowing the angle before Nassir Ali put us 3-0 up shortly afterwards with a spectacular long-range dipping half-volley into the bottom corner. Wasteels then steadied the ship and had a few half-chances but we always looked more dangerous at the other end and Ayo Matthews made it 4-0 in the 41st minute when he outmuscled his marker to turn and score past an unsuspected keeper. We then finished off a perfect First Half two minutes later to come off at the break with a 5-0 lead as skipper for the day Curtis Baalam scored only his second goal for the club in 45 appearances with a swerving low shot that totally deceived keeper Boxall. Wasteels did manage to pull a goal back just two minutes into the Second Half though when Isa Thaqi was the first to react to a loose ball in the area from a half-cleared free-kick to fire a low shot into the net through keeper Whitmore's legs, but any chances of them making an unlikely comeback were dashed just a minute later when midfielder Dedinga pulled a hamstring and left them down to 10 men for the rest of the match. In stark contrast to the First Half we then squandered numerous chances before our substitutes started coming on and making a difference, particularly in the 73rd minute when Oshade Watson played a quality long defence-splitting pass for Nana Obeng to run onto and notch his second goal of the game with ease. We then rounded off the scoring with arguably the best goal of the game when Mo Ali came on to make it 7-1 in the 83rd minute with a spectacular long-range shot into the top corner after being set up by his fellow substitute Said Said. Although we will have a harder task in the next round with a long journey to South-West London, if we play as well as we did in this match, we will quite rightly fancy our chances of reaching our first London Sunday Cup Final in 30 years of trying.