

Sunday 10th September 2023

Barnet Sunday League Roger Jones Challenge Cup First Round Match at Enfield Playing Fields (Pitch 16)

Kick-Off: 10.45 a.m. (Due to Ladysmith Road car park being shut...again !)

Result: **EDMONTON ROVERS**..... 3 **LONDON FOOTBALL SCHOOL** 3 **Half-Time:** 0-0

Edmonton Rovers won 4-3 on penalties

SHIRT NUMBER	TEAM (3-5-1 / 3-4-1-2 ¹⁵ / 3-1-4-2 ²⁵ / 4-3-2 ³⁸ / 3-1-4-2 HT)	GOAL TIMES	PENALTIES
1	GK Josh WAKEFORD (Captain)		
5	RCB Fergus MURRAY	ON 2 (Turned up late)	
4	SW/LCB ³⁸ Chris JORDANOU		4th (Scored)
19	LCB Daniel SCHWARTZ-GEE	OFF (Inj.) ³⁸	
7	RWB/LWB ²⁵ /LCM ³⁸ /LWB HT Christian ELLIS	86 Mins.	3rd (Scored)
12	CM/RWB ²⁵ /RB ³⁸ /RWB HT Michael MENZIES		
3	CM/DCM ²⁵ /LB ³⁸ /DCM HT Charlie SAVAGE		
6	LWB/CM ²⁵ /LCM HT Josh GILMORE		
11	ACM/CM ²⁵ /RCM ³⁸ Harry DORWARD		2nd (Scored)
9	CF Myreon KEANE	72 Mins.	1st (Missed)
14	CF Tairique HARRISON	ON 15 (Turned up late) 57 Mins.	5th (Scored)
SUBSTITUTES			
20	SW Lexton HARRISON	ON HT (Turned up late)	
OWN GOALS Scored For Us:			

PLAYER-MANAGER: Josh Wakeford

CLUB LINESMEN: Not Required by Referee

ATTENDANCE: 17

OTHER CLUB MEMBERS PRESENT: Laurence Hughes, Roderick Bennett, Hilary Carey, Mike Jordanou, Sarah Bartlett, Tim & Verity Wakeford

REFEREE: Jeron Smith

BOOKINGS: Myreon Keane (Delaying free-kick...29 Mins.), Josh Wakeford (Foul... 53 Mins.), Michael Menzies (Foul... 63 Mins.), Ernest Peka (L.F.S.) (Foul... 67 Mins.), Jack Wisker (L.F.S.) (Foul... 75 Mins.)

SENDING-OFFS: None

WEATHER CONDITIONS: Very Hot & Sunny (90° F). No Wind.

STATE OF PITCH: Bare patches but reasonably flat.

UNAVAILABILITY: (15 Players): Tre Maxwell, Sam Pritchett, Tobi Charles, Oliver Hearn-Leer (All Working), Natan Pawlaczyk, Gianni Dipo, Aiden Kavanagh (All Injured/Unfit), Harvey Antoniou, Rashawn Bennett-Dyer, Dapo Alaoye, Leon McKenzie-McKay, Roshan Shah, Kai McAuley (All with Other Commitments), Stuart Dorward, Lenny Charles (Both Away)

OPPONENTS' LINE-UP (4-2-3-1): 1. Ignacio Ezquerro (GK/LCB HT); 25. Dave O'Neill (RB), 29. Ernest Peka (RCB), 32. Alex Mendonca (LCB/RM HT), 23. Jack Wisker (LB); 21. Gustavo Angel Tamayo (DCM), 18. Chris Thorpe (DCM); 20. Abraham Henao (RM/CF HT), 41. Daniel Godfrey (ACM), 30. Robbie Brown (LM); 16. Jackson Chumap Lopez (CF/GK HT) **Subs:** None

OPPONENTS' GOALSCORERS: Godfrey (53 (Pen.) Mins.), Mendonca (77 Mins.), Wisker (87 Mins.)

OPPONENTS' PENALTIES: Godfrey (1st...Scored), Tamayo (2nd...Scored), Mendonca (3rd...Scored), Wisker (4th...Missed...Saved), Thorpe (5th...Missed...Saved)

MATCH REPORT

This was our first competitive match of the season as we faced Division Six side London Football School in the First Round of the Roger Jones Challenge Cup, which is a competition for all teams in the Barnet Sunday League, Premier Division included, so not one that we are likely to go on and win ! Whether that was the reason most of our players decided to work or do other things instead, I don't know, but the 90-degree heat, the car park being shut and one or two other factors resulted in us having to start the game with only nine men for the first two minutes and then only 10 men up until Tairique Harrison and his father Lexton arrived just before the First Half drinks break. Fortunately our opponents turned up with only a bare eleven themselves, but they did include two or three Step 4-6 Semi-Pros in that line-up, while they had won their first match of the season 5-1 the week before without two of those players playing and with what appeared to be a much weaker side than they put out for this one. With ourselves having to field several new players who didn't know each other all that well, we spent most of the First Half defending, but we were organised enough to force L.F.S. to shoot straight at Josh Wakeford from outside the area most of the time and we were able to come off at Half-Time with the game scoreless despite playing the last 10 minutes of the half with only 10 men again after Daniel Schwartz-Gee limped off with a knee injury. Thankfully veteran Lexton Harrison was able to get changed to replace Daniel in defence for the Second Half, but due to his age he decided to play the offside trap for every attempted through ball, and with neither side having anybody to run the line, that resulted in L.F.S. forward Abraham Henao going clean through from an offside position in the 53rd minute with Josh Wakeford then bringing him down for a penalty which Daniel Godfrey converted to put L.F.S. 1-0 up. We shrugged off that setback when Tairique Harrison made it 1-1 just four minutes later though with a far post tap-in from Myreon Keane's good run and cross and we then went into the lead for the first time in the match just seconds after the mid-Second Half drinks break when

Myreon punished a defensive mistake with an emphatic finish to make it 2-1. However, L.F.S. equalised in the 77th minute when Alex Mendonca tapped in from close range to make it 2-2, but we then regained the lead against the run of play again when Christian Ellis headed in a pinpoint Myreon Keane corner to put us 3-2 up with just four minutes to go. At that stage it looked as if a string of brilliant saves by Josh Wakeford throughout the Second Half would see us hold out for a victory in the 90 minutes, but L.F.S. deservedly equalised again just 17 seconds later when Lexton Harrison's scuffed clearance went straight to Left-Back Jack Wisker, who hit a spectacular dipping long-range shot over the stranded Josh Wakeford to make it 3-3 and send the game into a penalty shoot-out. Josh then won the toss for us to take our first penalty first, but despite L.F.S. not having any gloves for their (obvious stand-in) goalkeepers, Myreon managed to give him any easy save with a tame effort while L.F.S. went on to score their first three. Thankfully Harry Dorward, Christian Ellis and Chris Jordanou all scored from our next three penalties before Josh made a great save from L.F.S.'s fourth. Tairique Harrison then put us in the driving seat by converting our 5th penalty before Josh pulled off an even better save from their skipper Chris Thorpe to send us into the next round very much against the odds when we had so many players missing.