

Sunday 28th January 2024

Barnet Sunday League Division Five Match at Bethune Park, Friern Barnet

Kick-Off: 10.40 a.m. (Referee Late)

Result: **LONDON ORIENT** 2 **EDMONTON ROVERS** 2 **Half-Time:** 2-0

SHIRT NUMBER		TEAM (3-5-2 / 3-1-4-2 83)		GOAL TIMES
1	GK	Josh WAKEFORD		
6	RCB	Jack VANVYNCK		
2	SW	Chris JORDANOU		
19	LCB	Daniel SCHWARTZ-GEE	OFF HT	
5	RWB	Fergus MURRAY	OFF HT	
11	RCM/RWB HT/DCM 83	Harry DORWARD		
3	CM/RCM 83	Charlie SAVAGE (Captain)		
8	LCM	Paddy BAYNES	OFF 83	
4	LWB	Max FRANCIS	OFF HT	
9	CF/RCF 83	Myreon KEANE	OFF HT/BACK ON 83	
20	CF/RCM HT/RM 83	Frankie GEORGE		76 Mins.
SUBSTITUTES				
7	LWB/LCF 83	Christian ELLIS	ON HT	
12	CF/LM 83	Rashawn BENNETT-DYER	ON HT	
10	CF/LCM 83	Jordan AMUSAN	ON HT	90+1 Mins.
15	LCB	Omari VERMONT	ON HT	
16	Not Used	Harvey ANTONIOU		

OWN GOALS Scored For Us:

PLAYER-MANAGER: Josh Wakeford

CLUB LINESMEN: Bob Cleary

ATTENDANCE: 29

OTHER CLUB MEMBERS PRESENT: Laurence Hughes, Stuart Dorward, Natan Pawlaczyk, Roderick Bennett, Lorna Bennett, Louis Bennett, Mike Jordanou, Tim Wakeford, Verity Wakeford, Sylvia Bennett, John Murray

REFEREE: Harry Jacobs

BOOKINGS: Chris Harte (London Orient) (Foul...58 Mins.), Marius Rusu (London Orient) (Foul...65 Mins.)

SENDING-OFFS: None

WEATHER CONDITIONS: Sunny. No Wind.

STATE OF PITCH: Ridiculously small. Touchline marked out a yard away from the penalty area ! Soft & Muddy.

UNAVAILABILITY: (6 Players): Tobi Charles, Natan Pawlaczyk, Gianni Dipo (All Injured), Tairique Harrison, Eddie Cox (Other Commitments), Michael Menzies (Playing Youth Football)

OPPONENTS' LINE-UP (4-2-3-1): 1. Will Tang (GK); 4. Nick Russell (RB), 10. Tom Downey (RCB), 6. Chris Harte (LCB...Captain), 11. James Lavan (LB); 5. Carl Robinson (DCM), 8. Ehi Hayble (DCM); 7. Jordan Akorahson (RM), 9. David Downey (ACM), 14. Tom Silkstone (LM); 20. Marius Rusu (CF)

Subs Used: 26. Jake Fallon-Cotcher (On for Akorahson...69 Mins.), 7. Shane Foley (On for Silkstone...80 Mins.)

OPPONENTS' GOALSCORERS: Lavan (12 (Pen.) Mins.), Hayble (39 Mins.)

MATCH REPORT... We came into this match on a run of three wins in a row without conceding a goal, but we knew it would be a tall order trying to maintain that record against League leaders London Orient, who were still smarting from a 5-0 defeat Away to Atletico Grammar in their last match and were therefore very fired up to get themselves back on track. They also had the advantage this time of playing on their Home pitch, which was perfectly suited to a team with an average age of 33 as it had the touchlines marked out only a yard away from the edge of the penalty areas, therefore meaning less running for them and a greater opportunity to hurl long throws into the 6-yard box where they could then out-muscle our much smaller players. With four of our intended starters turning up late and having to be named on the bench, it wasn't long before we found ourselves under pressure and having to defend against numerous set-pieces and we had already been fortunate to see our opponents have a goal disallowed for an apparent foul on Josh Wakeford before Chris Jordanou was forced into giving a penalty away after 12 minutes as he lunged in on Orient's top scorer Marius Rusu after Jack Vanvynck's attempted clearance had been charged down. Thankfully Referee Harry Jacobs waved away Orient's appeals for Chris to be sent off for denying a goalscoring opportunity, but James Lavan easily put them 1-0 up from the spot anyway. Josh then had to make a brilliant save from a close-range Rusu header to stop us going further behind mid-way through the half before we finally succumbed to a set-piece six minutes before Half-Time when we were outmuscled and outjumped from one of numerous corners with giant midfielder Ehi Hayble heading in the 'second ball' on the goal-line to leave us 2-0 down at the break. Although we had defended well and limited Orient to just those four chances, we had been totally ineffective in attack, so the four latecomers who were due to start were all brought on for the start of the Second Half, and with us kicking downhill, there was still a chance of us getting back into the match. We had Josh to thank again for keeping us in the game in the 72nd minute though when he saved Lavan's second penalty of the match after one of our substitutes Omari Vermont had brought down dangerman Rusu in the area, but once Frankie George pulled a goal back for us four minutes later with an excellent header from a Charlie Savage cross, we dominated the last 15 minutes (including added-on time) and put the Orient defence under all sorts of pressure with our Half-Time substitutes having the legs on Orient's tiring veteran defenders. That eventually led to Jordan Amusan racing onto a Chris Jordanou through ball to nick the ball past oncoming keeper Tang in the first minute of added-on-time to earn us a 2-2 draw and keep our uneaten run going as Orient's players held a major inquest on the final whistle as to how they could throw away a 2-0 lead against a team of 18-year-olds.