

Sunday 27th November 2022

Barnet Sunday League Division Five Match at the New River Sports Centre, Wood Green (Stadium 3G Pitch)

Kick-Off: 12.20 p.m. (Referee waiting for teams to finish warming up after previous match had ended. Was supposed to be 12.15 pm)

Result: **N.L.R.** **3** **EDMONTON ROVERS** **2** **Half-Time:** 1-0

SHIRT NUMBER	TEAM (4-1-4-1)			GOAL TIMES
1	GK	Josh WAKEFORD		
3	RB/LB 71	Lenny CHARLES	OFF 61/BACK ON 71	
19	RCB	Daniel SCHWARTZ-GEE		
4	LCB	Natan PAWLACZYK (Captain)		
9	LB/LM 71	Myreon KEANE		
17	DCM	Leon McKENZIE-McKAY	OFF HT	
6	RM	Tre MAXWELL		77 Mins.
18	CM/RB 61	Tobi CHARLES		
7	CM	Nana OBENG		
5	LM/CF 29/CM 61	Christian ELLIS		81 (Pen.) Mins.
20	CF	Gianni DIPO	OFF (Inj.) 29	
SUBSTITUTES				
14	LM	Tairique HARRISON	ON 29/OFF 71	
8	DCM	Dapo ALAOYE	ON HT	
16	CF	Harvey ANTONIOU	ON 61	
OWN GOALS Scored For Us:				

CARETAKER-MANAGER: Leon McKenzie-McKay **CLUB LINESMAN:** Not Required by Referee **ATTENDANCE:** 20

OTHER CLUB MEMBERS PRESENT: Laurence Hughes, Roderick Bennett, Tim Wakeford, Lorna Bennett

REFEREE: Roger Jacobs

BOOKINGS: Nathaniel Connor-Foster (NLR) (Foul...81 Mins.), Dori Duraku (NLR) (Foul...87 Mins.), Lenny Charles (Foul... 89 Mins.)

SENDING-OFFS: None

WEATHER CONDITIONS: Cloudy with Light Rain. No Wind.

STATE OF PITCH: 3G

UNAVAILABILITY: (3 Players): Tony McKay (Manager) (Illness), Stuart Dorward (Caretaker-Manager), Bob Cleary (Club Linesman), Sarah Dorward (First Aider), Tracey Charles (First Aider), Max Mir (All with Family/Other Commitments), Harry Dorward (Injured & Family Commitments), Roshan Shah (Illness)

OPPONENTS' LINE-UP (4-3-3): 1. Jose Carlos Vieira Pitaluga (GK); 17. Nathaniel Connor-Foster (RB), 2. Jeffrey Mensah (RCB), 18. Arkont Berisha (LCB), 3. Andi Shehaj (LB); 11. Guilherme Silva (RCM), 10. Igli Kojku (ACM), 8. Indistel Koqiu (LCM), 9. Kristian Cato-Barrett (RW), 7. Dori Duraku (CF...Captain), 14. Dwaine Hitchman (LW)

Subs. 21. Nana Adjei (On for Shehaj...52 Mins.), 23. Rivi Kojku (On for Silva...68 Mins.)

OPPONENTS' GOALSCORERS: Duraku (31 (Pen.) Mins.), Hitchman (48, 78 Mins.)

MATCH REPORT.... We came into this afternoon match against Division 5 title contenders N.L.R. with most of our Management Committee missing due to family commitments or illness, meaning Leon McKenzie-McKay had to act as Caretaker Manager this time. However, despite Leon having to start the game due to players turning up late, we did at least have Roderick Bennett & Tim Wakeford on the touchline to help him with the coaching, while the return of Daniel Schwartz-Gee, Nana Obeng & Dapo Alaoye meant we were fielding a much stronger squad than the previous week, therefore allowing Josh Wakeford to go back in goal instead of his father. With the huge stadium 3G pitch being wet on top after constant rain overnight, the ball was zipping off the surface much more than the 'sticky' pitch we had to play on against Colney Hatch Athletic two weeks ago (which resulted in Harry Dorward severely damaging his ankle), so that helped us pass the ball about, but both sides defended deep early on and we restricted N.L.R. to only two or three half-chances in the first 30 minutes, while Tre Maxwell was the first to test N.L.R.'s debutant Brazilian keeper Jose Carlos Vieira Pitaluga with a fierce long-range drive that was brilliantly tipped over. We then had a blow in the 29th minute when Gianni Dipo limped off with a hamstring injury and we then conceded a penalty just a minute later when a loose ball from a corner bounced up and hit Natan Pawlaczyk on the elbow. That was easily converted by Dori Duraku to give N.L.R. a 1-0 lead at Half-Time which was a fair reflection of the First Half, but we were then able to bring on influential midfielder Dapo Alaoye for the start of the Second Half after he had missed several matches recently due to Saturday football commitments. Unfortunately though, we found ourselves 2-0 down just three minutes after the break when Dwaine Hitchman calmly side-footed a first-time shot into the bottom corner after we had failed to cut out a low cross and we were then lucky not to concede two or three more within the space of five minutes straight after. However, the introduction of substitute Harvey Antoniou and a number of positional changes for several players with 20 minutes remaining made a difference for us and we pulled a goal back in the 77th minute when Tre Maxwell fired in from close range after a scramble from a corner, but N.L.R. scored a third goal on the break just a minute later as we pushed forward for an equaliser with Hitchman scoring his second of the match after running onto a quality through ball from N.L.R. substitute Rivi Kojku to outpace our defence and round the oncoming Josh Wakeford. We still kept playing some excellent passing football though and Christian Ellis made it 3-2 from the penalty spot in the 81st minute after he had been brought down by Nathaniel Connor-Foster after running onto a Tre Maxwell long ball, but N.L.R. tightened up defensively after that and were too strong for us in the end.