

Sunday 9th April 2017

## Barnet Sunday League Division Two Match at the Old Owens Sports Ground, Northaw

Kick-Off: 10.35.a.m.

Result: **NORTHAW**.....1 **EDMONTON ROVERS**.....1 Half-Time: 0-0

SHIRT NUMBER	EDMONTON ROVERS (4-2-3-1 / 3-2-4-1 85)			GOAL TIMES
1	GK	Grant BAKER		
17	RB/CB 89	Ivan BASS		
19	CB	Tyronne PETRIE (Captain)		
14	CB	Harold OFORI		
3	LB/ACM 89	Aiden KAVANAGH		
15	CM Holding	Curtis BAALAM		
5	CM Holding	Anees IKRAMULLAH		
8	RM/LM 38/RM HT	Jack BANGS	OFF 49/ BACK ON 88	
7	ACM/LM 20/RM 38/ACM HT	Hal OZKAN	OFF 49	
10	LM/ACM 20/LM HT	Andreas KRITICOS	OFF 88	
12	CF	Tom CROAKE	OFF 49	
<b>SUBSTITUTES</b>				
9	CF	Leon McKENZIE-McKAY	ON 49	
11	RM	Daniel DALEY	ON 49	90+1 Mins.
6	ACM	Khaheem McKENZIE	ON 49	
OWN GOALS Scored For Us:				

MANAGER: Tony McKay

CLUB LINESMAN: Bob Cleary

OTHER CLUB MEMBERS PRESENT: L.Hughes

ATTENDANCE: 19

REFEREE: Oliver Simnock

BOOKINGS: None

SENDING-OFFS: None

WEATHER CONDITIONS: Very warm & sunny.

STATE OF PITCH: Bone dry, but flat.

**UNAVAILABILITY:** (6 Players) Ayo Matthews (Away), Connor Kavanagh (Social Commitments), Johan Ahipeaud (Away),

Daniel Cascoe (Away), Roderick Bennett (Assistant Manager) (Working)

Sunday Morning Drop-Outs: Lexton Harrison (Family Commitments), Peter Akom (No Show)

**OPPONENTS' LINE-UP (4-2-3-1):** 1. Hadley Caswell (GK); 2. Callum Ovell (RB), 6. Graham Patmore (CB), 4. Barry-Lee Hastings (CB...Captain), 3. Ian Marshall (LB); 10. Alex Hughes (CM Holding), 11. Neil Hughes (CM Holding); 7. Jack Leighton (RM), 16. Matthew Morris (CM), 14. Max Adams (LM); 9. Andrew Marshall (CF) **Subs Used:** None

**OPPONENTS' GOALSCORER:** Leighton (83 Mins.)

### MATCH REPORT

Having clinched the Division Two title the week before, this was the first of three remaining fixtures where our aim was most certainly to finish the season unbeaten, but while also making sure that certain loyal squad members were given a game or two if they have not been in the starting line-up very often. With regulars Ayo Matthews, Connor Kavanagh & Lexton Harrison all unavailable (amongst others) and Manager Tony McKay deciding to leave three more first-choice players on the bench, that saw the likes of Anees Ikramullah, Jack Bangs, Hal Ozkan, Andreas Kriticos and Tom Croake given a start, while central defender Ivan Bass filled in at right-back. Although our opponents Northaw were stuck in 4th place and had nothing to play for in what was their last game of the season, they were certainly one of the better teams we had faced, with our 7-1 victory against them at Home back in January being a freak result where they actually had more shots at goal than us. They were also fielding a stronger side with a proper goalkeeper this time, so it was certainly a bit of a risk we were taking in making so many changes. However, we were by far the better side in the first 25 minutes with Ivan, Jack, Tom & Hal all having great chances to score, with Tom being particularly unlucky in seeing a fiercely-struck shot somehow headed off the line. Northaw only had two chances in the First Half, both of which were in the last 15 minutes, but they were equally as good as ours though, and Grant Baker had to make two vital saves. Indeed Northaw also defended better as the First Half went on and we started getting a bit frustrated. That continued for the first five minutes of the Second Half, so Manager McKay decided to bring on all three available substitutes straight away, which was a good decision as the temperature was in the high 70's and it was hard work for our attacking players against a side who were deliberately defending deep all game and trying to catch us on the break. With Northaw only fielding a bare eleven, inevitably they started to tire as the match went on with their keeper Hadley Caswell making a number of good saves, particularly from Aiden Kavanagh, who was playing more as an attacking midfielder for most of the Second Half. It looked like a winner for us was inevitable, but instead, Northaw took the lead in the 83rd minute when Grant Baker dropped an over-hit cross from midfielder Jack Leighton over the goal-line and they were 1-0 up without even having a shot in the Second Half ! It was actually the first time this season we had faced defeat in 90 minutes in any game, as all three of our Cup defeats were on penalties, so we really threw men forward after that in a desperate attempt to preserve our unbeaten record, and thankfully we managed to do just that when one of our three substitutes, Daniel Daley, came to the rescue in the first minute of added-on-time with a really clever finish that just crept over the line after he had been set up by a quality through ball from Anees Ikramullah. Northaw had certainly defended really well all match, but we clearly deserved to get something out of the game for our efforts, and Northaw sportingly recognised that by applauding us off the pitch as this season's Champions, which was a great gesture. We then all had a drink together in their clubhouse afterwards, and that is what Sunday football should be all about.