

Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> October 2023

## Barnet Sunday League Roger Jones Challenge Cup Second Round Match at Enfield Playing Fields (Pitch 3)

**Kick-Off:** 10.40 a.m. (10 Minutes late - Referee taking his time)

**Result:** EDMONTON ROVERS..... 1 REAL MENZA..... 4 **Half-Time:** 0-2

SHIRT NUMBER	TEAM (3-4-1-2)			GOAL TIMES
1	GK	Richard REDGRAVE		
19	RCB	Daniel SCHWARTZ-GEE		
2	SW	Chris JORDANOU		
4	LCB	Natan PAWLACZYK	OFF (Inj.) 17	
6	RWB	Josh GILMORE		
18	CM	Tobi CHARLES	OFF (Illness) 37	
11	ACM/CM 37	Harry DORWARD		
3	CM	Charlie SAVAGE (Captain)		
7	LWB	Christian ELLIS		
15	CF	Josh WAKEFORD	OFF (Uni) 66	
9	CF	Myreon KEANE		
<b>SUBSTITUTES</b>				
12	LCB	Michael MENZIES	ON 17	
16	ACM/CF 66	Harvey ANTONIOU	ON 37	82 Mins.
10	ACM	Rashawn BENNETT-DYER	ON 66	
17	Not Used	Stuart DORWARD		
20	Not Used	Keith SAVAGE		

**OWN GOALS Scored For Us:**

**MANAGER:** Stuart Dorward

**CLUB LINESMEN:** Bob Cleary

**ATTENDANCE:** 29

**OTHER CLUB MEMBERS PRESENT:** Laurence Hughes, Roderick Bennett, Sarah Dorward, Lorna Bennett, Sarah Bartlett, Sylvia Bennett, Mike Jordanou, John Murray, Tim Wakeford, Verity Wakeford

**REFEREE:** Pasquale Acierno

**BOOKINGS:** None

**SENDING-OFFS:** None

**WEATHER CONDITIONS:** Cloudy but Mild. Stiff breeze across pitch.

**STATE OF PITCH:** Very dry but flat.

**UNAVAILABILITY:** (7 Players): Tairique Harrison, Oliver Hearn-Leer, Tre Maxwell (All Working), Fergus Murray, Gianni Dipo, (Both Injured), Sam Pritchett (Other Commitments), Dapo Alaoye (University)

**OPONENTS' LINE-UP (4-2-3-1):** 1. Mustafa Benjahene (GK); 2. Hassan Elmi (RB), 7. Junaid Murshid ? (RCB), 12. 'Ibrahim' (LCB), 5. 'Jamil' (LB); 3. Andrew Ben-Amoah (DCM), 8. Mohamed Elmi (DCM...Captain); 9. Andrew Symeou (RM), 13. Adnan Sabban (ACM), 11. Sahar Alam (LM); 10. Salim Abdulkadir (CF)

**Subs.** 6. Abdellah Semmane, 15. Mohamed Abdulkadir, 7. Mohamed Mohamed, 4. Jaffar Mohamed (All Used)

**OPONENTS' GOALSCORERS:** Alam (17 Mins.), Semmane (45, 71 Mins.), Mohamed Elmi (85 Mins.)

### MATCH REPORT

Our reward for a penalty shoot-out win against London Football School in the First Round of this competition was another Home tie in the Second Round, this time against Division Two side Real Menza, a team who had lost their first two League games this season, albeit by only one goal in each, and against very good opponents. We were not exactly at full-strength for this game with regulars Fergus Murray and Tairique Harrison amongst several others who were unavailable, while the previous week's two-goal star Rashawn Bennett-Dyer was unable to arrive until Half-Time. Thankfully though, Whitewebbs Vets didn't have a match this week so Ritchie Redgrave was able to play in goal and two others were able to name themselves as subs in case of injuries. One of those was Stuart Dorward, who took over as Manager for the day with Josh Wakeford having to leave half-way through the match to travel to his University, and we also saw the return of Natan Pawlaczyk after injury, although unfortunately that didn't last long as he soon felt a re-occurrence of that during the First Half. We also saw midfielder Tobi Charles having to come off after 37 minutes through illness which really stretched our squad to the limit, but such is the quality of various new signings we have made recently, we were still able to play well as a team and create some good chances with some excellent moves. Real Menza had quick and technically gifted players all over the pitch though and having already missed a penalty with a weak effort that was comfortably saved by Ritchie, they took the lead after 17 minutes when Sahar Alam tapped in at the far post after Ritchie had surprisingly failed to cut out a right-wing cross and they then really got on top after bringing on substitute Abdellah Semmane, who was far too quick and strong for our young players and more-or-less ran the show thereafter. Semmane put Menza 2-0 up right on Half-Time with a fierce close-range drive into the roof of the net and the pattern then continued in the Second Half with us creating more good chances but with Menza creating more than twice as many themselves. It took them until the 71<sup>st</sup> minute to make it 3-0 though when Semmane scored his second of the match with an easy finish in a one-on-one with Ritchie after we had been caught playing a high line defensively, which was not for the first time in the Second Half. However, pushing more players forward did pay dividends for us in the 82<sup>nd</sup> minute when Harvey Antoniou pulled a goal back from Harry Dorward's low cross to make it 3-1, but Menza killed the game off with a fourth goal after 86 minutes as a lightening quick passing move from a short corner saw Mohamed Elmi volley in at the far post with our players left completely flat-footed. In the end we were indebted to keeper Ritchie Redgrave for preventing a much heavier defeat with a string of outstanding saves, but we were beaten by a very good side and even if we had a full-strength side available it would not have made much difference.