

* - SUBSTITUTED

SUNDAY 7th OCTOBER 2001
 MERCURY WALTHAM SUNDAY LEAGUE (DIVISION ONE) MATCH AWAY TO UPSHIRE COACH & HORSES

KICK-OFF 10.25 AM! AS LARSEN'S RECREATION GROUP, WARDHAM ABBEY

SCORE: UPSHIRE COACH & HORSES 7 EDMONTON ROVERS 0 MATCH-TIME: 5-0

Team	MARKS OUT OF 10	SCORERS
1. GK ¹ Russell BEEDEN	6	
2. RB ³ Matt BOOTHBY	5	
3. LB ² Lee OSBORN	6	
4. RM ⁷ Gary ODELL	6	
5. SW ¹⁰ Tony SPEUER	6	
6. CM ⁴ Gary SOUTHAM	6½	
7. CM ^{How 9} Paul REBAIRO	6	
8. RCM ⁵ Stuart DORWARD (CAPTAIN)	6	
9. CF ⁸ Paul GIBSON	6	
10. LCM ¹⁷ Derek DORWARD	5½	
11. LM ⁶ John BEASLEY	7	
12. - ¹² Dave DIETMAN	-	
14. - ¹⁴ Laurence HUGHES	-	
15. -	-	
16. -	-	
17. -	-	

OPPONENTS' GOAL TIMES: PAUL MITCHELL (12, 19, 84 mins), ALAN FOXWELL (22 mins), TREVOR DAVID (24, 75 mins)
 OTHER CLUB MEMBERS PRESENT: L. HUGHES, T. HUGHES, DARREN STREET (144 mins)

ROUND: 19 REFEREE: STEVE MARCH
 CLUB LINESMAN: DAVE DIETMAN REFEREE'S MARK (OUT OF 10): 8
 BOOKINGS: -
 SENDING OFFS: -

WEATHER: CONDITIONS CLOUDY BUT DRY, STRONG WIND DOWN PITCH (AGAINST US FIRST HALF)
 STATE OF PITCH: SOFT AND MUDDY, BUT FLAT WITH GRASS CUT.

Report: As we were missing no less than seven 'first-choice' players...and five other registered players who could have filled in for them, we came into this game 'knowing we were going to get thrashed' and it was just a question of asking all eleven players in the starting line-up to give 100% and try to last the full 90 minutes, especially with an injured (and very pissed) Dave Dietman and Secretary/Cameraman Laurence Hughes as our only available substitutes! Indeed Dietman was so pissed that he even volunteered to act as our club linesman, but that idea backfired badly in the 19th minute when he found himself 10 yards behind the play and failed to flag (initially) for an obvious offside which led to referee Steve March allowing the resulting goal to stand because he presumably thought Dietman was biased when he put his flag up after the ball had gone in the net! That was the second of four goals within the space of 12 minutes mid-way through the First Half, virtually all of them resulting from the fact that we had five players who were starting a match for the first time in 'ages' and had 'forgotten' how to do zonal marking from corners or how to play the ball out of defence, although stand-in keeper Russell Beeden was clearly at fault for Upshire's third goal...a speculative 40-yard wind-assisted volley that he tried to 'swat' away from under the crossbar without moving his feet whatsoever (like his does at 7-a-side!)

At least 'Tarby' made up for his miserable First Half performance with a string of excellent saves in the Second Half as our five 'reserves' understandably tired badly, but with the wind behind us in the Second Half we actually created quite a few good chances ourselves and we should have scored at least one consolation...Stuart Dorward being the biggest culprit for virtually tripping over himself in a one-on-one with the Upshire keeper!

Thankfully, Upshire were missing three or four regulars themselves as they undoubtedly would have reached double-figures otherwise, but they didn't look very convincing defensively and it was very frustrating that we still couldn't find somebody to put the ball in the back of the net just to give us a bit of pride!

Although our decision to play this match (and not concede it and pay a £25.00 Fine instead!) was beneficial to the likes of Paul Gibson, Matt Boothby, Paul Rebaire & Gary Odell in giving them a much needed (and rare) 90 minutes, results like this may well start denting the confidence of some of our more regular players and indeed Derek Dorward looked thoroughly 'pissed-off' at times and will probably admit that he found it hard to get himself motivated.

In fact we have now only won twice in our last 18 matches because of the seemingly endless problems we are having with players being unavailable due to injuries, holidays and family/girlfriend commitments and if the trend continues we could well end up getting relegated!