

OH FOOTBALL REPORT No 8

Results for Saturday 8 November 2008

HOT OFF THE PRESS NEWS

QUIZ NIGHT will be held on Friday 28th November at the clubhouse. From 19:30. It would be good to see some footballers take part.

First Team:

No game

Top Scorers: Harry x 6, Sexton x 3, Calv x 3, Leon x 1, Linacre x 1, Yates x 1, Gower x 1

Second Team:

Mayfield v Old Hamptonians II (cup) 8-2 victory (Alan Dunn-Baker (4), Phelps (2), Gibson (1), Sexton (1))

The 2's progressed into the next round of the Essex-Middlesex Intermediate cup following a comfortable victory over Mayfield. In deepest North London the cause was hampered by a surprising number of absentees whilst some of those who were scheduled to start managed to find themselves gridlocked in unseasonable central London traffic. This did not though stop the side from routing the opposition. A good start is always crucial in these sort of games and the 2's began well – keeping the ball and looking menacing going forward. The defence, marshalled by Paul Dunn-Baker and Sainsbury, looked solid; Stan and Phelps seamlessly fitted into their new positions in the middle of the park; Green and Threlfall looked dangerous out wide whilst up top Sexton and Alan Dunn-Baker continued as they finished last week against HAC by linking up well. Indeed it did not take long before **Dunn-Baker** opened the scoring following good work from his partner.

Next came the moment of genius/fortune (delete as appropriate) that highlighted the difference in class between the sides. Eager to test out a keeper who due to a lack of personal equipment was encouragingly sporting an OH training jumper, **Gibson** pinged/hoofted a right-footed speculative effort/clearance from his own half goalwards. Aply assisted by a strong breeze the ball sailed towards the target, pitched around the penalty spot before looping over the hapless custodian and into the net. Celebrations were muted.

Hampton didn't stop there and **Phelps** bagged a first-half brace with two clinical finishes following typical marauding forays into the opposition box. In between **Alan Dunn-Baker** rounded the keeper for his second and all was rosy for the 2's at 5-0 with barely 30 minutes played. The only blot on the copybook was when on a rare Mayfield attack their striker was given too much room on the left and fired a neat finish past a helpless Comber.

The second period would prove tougher for Hampton as the slope and strong wind were against them. Inevitably Mayfield came at us and were looking particularly strong down their right hand side. However Comber stood firm in goal and, despite hitting the crossbar twice, the only consolation they managed was when a wind-assisted inswinging corner ended up eluding everyone and finding its way into the net. This goal was sandwiched though between three more for the men in the gold as **Alan Dunn-Baker** helped himself to a further two and **Sexton** finally and deservedly managed to get in on the act.

All in all a comfortable afternoon for Hampton and a satisfying victory particularly considering the manner in which we were eliminated by Boxhill in the other AFA cup. Fair play to Mayfield – they battled gamely and were sporting enough to buy us all a pint after the game. Final word goes to Rob Dixon who insisted last Wednesday that I mention him in this week's match report.

Team: Comber, Kavoussi, Gibson, Sainsbury, Paul Dunn-Baker (Duncan Louis), Green, Karski, Phelps, Threlfall, Alan Dunn-Baker, Sexton

Top scorers: A Dunn-Baker 8, Sexton: 5

Third Team:

Away v Fitzwilliam Old Boys (League) 5-3 Defeat (Barron 3)

The 3s joined in the fun of a November's afternoon in the south-east this weekend – playing in driving rain on a vegetable patch. The dulcet tones of the A316 bordering the park only served to further warn of what was to come – a Sunday league scrap.

It was clear early on that the 3s are a better side than bottom-of-the-table Fitzwilliam who, despite having plenty to say early on, were penned back every time some decent forward passing and Wood's angled running turned them round. After half an hour of making a decent fist of trying to avoid the opposition's flying boots, they were shut up by Barron's cool finish from 10 yards from Sekhon's neat through pass.

In firm control of the match, the 3s were then stunned by 2 bizarre goals just before the break. First, from a hopeful ball tossed in to the edge of the box, the opposition left-back, who almost certainly had never before scored a goal in his life, smashed a first time right-foot volley into the corner.

Minutes later, Baulk's calm back pass was whacked straight into the onrushing striker's chest by keeper Dix, who could do nothing as the ball trickled back past him over the line. 1-2 at the break.

Out with determination, the 3s best laid plans were scuppered after 5 second half minutes as a cross was allowed to come in from the left, Patel could only deflect it past Dix and Baulk, with an instinctive reaction, handled away on the line. A red card for JB and the penalty was dispatched. 1-3.

It would have been easy for the 3s to drop their heads and bemoan their luck but instead a rousing fightback ensued. With Wood and Barron causing problems up front and Sekhon and Macdonald getting a grip on midfield, the 3s were back in it as Barron took advantage of confusion in the Fitz defence to finish powerfully from 12 yards. 2-3.

Minutes later and the big man was fouled on the edge of the box and he completed a terrific hattrick via a deflection off the top of the wall, which sent the ball looping over the Glaswegian midget in sticks. 3-3.

Only one team to go on to win it? Not when a 45 yard floated cross skidded through unattacked and into the corner. 3-4. With time running out the exhausted 3s were unable to raise themselves again and our inability to defend crosses was again exposed as a near post header gave Dix little chance.

A little light relief was provided by Wheeldon moments from the end, who expressed his frustration at not getting a single decision all afternoon from the mute referee by booting the Fitz centre forward as he

lay helpless on the ground. A small fracas ensued and someone threw a handbag; but those of us who know Wheelo chuckled to ourselves about an afternoon best forgotten.

Team: Dix, Wilson, Wheeldon, Patel, Baulk, Hinton (Hatton), Sekhon, Barron, Macdonald, Gorczynski (Battey), Wood

Top Scorers: Barron, Wood, Lopez: 4

Fourth Team:

Home v Old Vaughanians (League) 3-1 Victory (Horne 2, Greenidge)

After a disappointing cancellation last weekend, the Lions were purring at the chance to extend their winning streak to 5 on the bounce, against a fiery Old Vaughanians side out to avenge their defeat earlier in the season. A scrappy first half saw both teams struggle to create many clear opportunities with the Lions playing the better of the football. Just before the half time whistle, a great through ball from Redding allowed Horne to glide past the keeper and slot home a cracking finish from the most acute of angles. It was never in doubt.

After the break Vaughanians had the bit between their teeth and put Hampton under extreme pressure, which the back four of Green, Owen, Winky and Grothier dealt with heroically until a great bit of skill from the Vaughanian's front men had them level.

Some awful tackles and incessant moaning from Vaughanians resulted in 2 yellow cards for the visitors, and from a resulting quick free kick Adam Williams burst into the box to square a measured pass to Greenidge who blasted home from close range.

Vaughanians then found themselves down to 10 men after an off the ball incident resulted in a Vaughanian player being sent from the field for violent conduct.

Hampton pressed home their numerical advantage in the final 10 minutes when constant pressure resulted in Horne winning a penalty and subsequently firing it past their moaning keeper. Horne celebrated like we had won the league, much to the opposition's disgust; however it is great to see such passion from him and all of the Lions, who have moved level on points at the top of the table as their push for promotion gathers pace.

Men of the Match: Green & Winky

Team: Baker, Grothier, Green, Owen, Winky, Redding, Williams, Lloyd, Greenidge, Midwinter, Jackson, Khanna, Ross, Horne

Top Scorers: Horne 13, Greenidge 4

Vets Team

Fixture:

No report received.

Team: