

Hellenic League Premier Division

Saturday 21 August 2010

Bracknell Town 2-3 Slimbridge

Slimbridge travelled to Bracknell for the second week running and won an exciting game in the last minute with a header from Joe Tustain. The result took the Swans to the top of the UHlsport Hellenic League Premier Division whilst other teams are busy with the FA Cup.

Bracknell started strongly and the visitors again took a little time to find a foothold in the game. After 9 minutes, however, a good cross from the right by Mike Bryant was met by Paul Carter who volleyed narrowly past the far post. A couple of minutes later Tillson in the home goal made a good save when one-on-one with Tustain. The new central defensive partnership of Rob Hine and Tom Speers looked solid early on and both had chances to score with headers from corners as Slimbridge began to dominate. This pressure told after 27 minutes when Marv Roberts ran on to a pass from Carter and held off the defender to hammer home from 15 yards.

Roberts was again instrumental too in the second goal on 35 minutes when he was hauled to the ground in the penalty area. Assistant Manager Fred Ward confidently slotted home the resulting spot kick. Bracknell were struggling to come to terms with the strength of the visitors in the latter stages of the first half and Roberts, Carter and Speers all had chances to increase the lead before the interval.

Dave Evans was forced to punch clear early in the second half as the home side threw everything forward and they were thrown a lifeline when the Robins were awarded a penalty in the 80th minute following a seemingly innocuous challenge from Hine. Rob Yorke-Goldney sent Evans the wrong way and this was the green light for a period of intense pressure as Bracknell went searching for an equaliser. The Swans were struggling to find rhythm again but seemed to have regained control following the introduction of the pacy Danny Chandler following an injury to Roberts. A number of chances went begging as Slimbridge tried to kill

the game off but with four minutes to go the ball fell to Yorke-Goldney who curled an impressive shot into the top corner to level the scores.

Neither side seemed content to settle for a point and in the 90th minute a corner on the left from Carter was headed back across goal by Speers and Tustain headed powerfully into the net amid protests from the home bench for offside. A rash challenge from Liam Woolley reduced Bracknell to ten men as the game went into injury time but Slimbridge held on well to bring another well-deserved result back from back from Larges Lane.

A difficult week ahead for the Swans as they travel to Hereford to play Pegasus Juniors on Tuesday night and another long journey to Ascot United on Saturday. Local rivals Shortwood United make the short journey to Wisloe Road on Bank Holiday Monday for an eagerly anticipated local derby.

Team:

Evans, Sterling, Wellon, Hine, Speers, Wood, Bryant, Ward, Roberts(capt), Tustain, Carter.

Subs: Chandler (for Roberts), Wilton (for Carter), Workman.