

# **Hellenic League Premier Division**

**Saturday 24 March 2012**

## **Kidlington 1-1 Slimbridge**

Slimbridge returned from Oxfordshire with a point in a game that they should have won comfortably but a 'lack lustre' performance meant that another two points were lost in their attempt to finish the season in the top six.

On a warm afternoon and with a hard surface to contend with, both sides struggled to find any sort of rhythm and the first half produced very little to excite the supporters.

Marvyn Roberts set up Jamie Martin in the 12th min but the striker shot over. At the other end Jon Mills weaved his way past two Swans defenders and with just Dave Evans to beat he shot straight at the Keeper.

Ben Willoughby then went agonisingly close for the hosts but his fierce low shot went inches wide.

In the 35th min Roberts headed on to Martin who's darting run towards goal was halted by an excellent tackle by Tom Franklin, the ball rebounded to Andy Shepherd who put in a good cross to Alex Higgs but the latter just failed to connect.

After 38 minutes Dave Evans had to be at his best to tip over a cross cum shot by Jack Quainton as the first half ended goalless.

With just two minutes of the second half gone Slimbridge replaced skipper Roberts with Ross Langworthy, the University student who has been playing for Gosport Borough in the Southern league, making a welcome return for the Swans, and straight away he started to cause the Kidlington defence trouble with his pace up the left.

In the 52nd minute Langworthy's introduction paid dividends, Fred Ward played a good ball to the young striker and his run up the left ended with him delivering a perfect cross to the unmarked Shepherd who coolly side-footed high into the net to give the visitor's the lead.

The home side responded well and excellent work by Quainton on the right left Jon Mills in a good position to shoot on goal but he decided to pass the ball across goal instead and the chance was gone.

Kidlington were level on 70 mins when substitute Lewis Coyle went past Shepherd and crossed for Ryan Curtin who fired past the helpless Evans.

Shepherd had to be replaced with Shane Anson shortly afterwards due to a leg injury as the home side went in search of victory.

As the home side pressed, their frustration with referee Rob Hey escalated, receiving several cautions and in the 88th minute Coyle was dismissed after he took a swing at Swans defender Will Wellon.

Further chances for Martin and Higgs came to nothing as the final whistle blew with both sides settling for a draw.

Team: Evans, Shepherd(Anson 71), Cornwall, Wellon, Hine, Wood, Ward, Cole, Roberts (Langworthy 47), Higgs, Martin.

Sub Not Used: Sterling.