GFA Trophy 1st Round

Tuesday 3 September 2013

Slimbridge 1-0 Brimscombe & Thrupp

The Swans progressed to the second round of the GFA Trophy with a close fought win after an entertaining game at Wisloe Road.

The winning goal came in the first half, when, with 25 minutes on the clock, Jack Twyman played in Dean Turner and his shot took a slight deflection on the way past Brimscombe Keeper Lee Pritchard.

The second period saw opportunities for both sides, but the Swans hung on to earn a trip to Cirencester Town Development in the Second Round. A date for this tie has to be arranged.

Team: Evans, Robinson (Nash 20), Wellon, Halford, Bennett, Cole, Twyman, Parrott (Martin 82), Roberts, Philp (Kinnear 65), Turner

Supporters Man of the Match: Niall Halford

Swans Manager Leon Sterling believes his side are now beginning to hit their stride after a disappointing start to the season, which saw Slimbridge lose their first four Western League Premier games, albeit to sides who are currently at the top end of the table, coupled with an FA Cup defeat on penalties to local rivals Cheltenham Saracens. Two victories on the bounce, both with clean sheets, have increased confidence at Wisloe Road, and the Manager is encouraged by the improved displays.

'We had a tough start, playing some good sides, with a lot of players unavailable at the start of the season.' Sterling said. 'But we've dug in, and made ourselves harder to beat, combined with getting a few players back to strengthen the squad. Hopefully, we've now turned the corner, and continue to build on the last two results, and start to climb the League.'

Slimbridge entertain Hengrove Athletic in a League encounter at Wisloe Road on Saturday (3.00pm). The Swans should also learn over the weekend their destination in the Second Round of the FA Vase, as the same day sees Farnham Town entertain Ardley United in the First Round. The Swans travel to meet the winner on September 21st.