# Western League Premier Division

# Saturday 26 April 2014

# Hallen 0-2 Slimbridge AFC

A goal in each half saw the Swans take a comfortable three points from Hallen at Moorhouse Lane this afternoon. Harlie Price, who later was dismissed after a clash with Hallen Keeper Lee Ballard finished off a neat move to put the visitors ahead in the first period, and an impressive solo effort from Jack Twyman after the break secured the victory.

The win lifts Slimbridge above local rivals Winterbourne United, who have now completed their fixtures, to 16th place in the Western Premier League with two games remaining.

Slimbridge were looking to bounce back from two 4-1 defeats, and started the game, which was played in blustery conditions, at a good pace. Twyman's first minute cross was just too long for Dean Turner at the back post, while Jamie Martin also went close with a shot on the turn after nine minutes.

Hallen had a couple of early chances, but poor finishing from both Chris Church and Ben Crewe saw their efforts well off target.

As the game approached the 20 minute mark, the visitors began to exert some real pressure - firstly Freddy Ward's Free Kick managed to miss everyone as it swept across the Hallen goalmouth, and then Twyman and Adam Mace combined in a lovely move to set up Price, whose shot was just wide.

A minute later, though, the deadlock was broken - Twyman and Jamie Martin were involved in a great piece of interplay, and Price made no mistake to finish off what was by far the best move of the match thus far.

Slimbridge continued to press, and Mace went close with a header from Martin's cross, before Martin himself went close - Ballard stopped the striker's first effort, and the ball rebounded out to Martin, but his effort to lob the Hallen Keeper ended up just the wrong side of the post.

The Swans had one more good opportunity before the break, as Mace charged down a Hallen clearance, but again, Price's lob was just off target, and the visitors went into the break thoroughly deserving of their lead.

The second half saw more of the same, as Slimbridge continued to make all the running - Turner's shot was blocked just after the restart, and Alex Hoyle's break saw Mace hit the side netting after a clever diagonal pass had played him into space.

Twyman was beginning to break forward from midfield as well, and he went close after more good work from Martin and Price on 54 minutes.

Hallen were reduced to long range efforts, and James Derossa's deflected shot which proved an easy stop for Scott Gearon was their best effort early in the second half.

Twyman again went close after another probing cross from Ward, before the Swans were reduced to ten men with an hour on the clock.

Harlie Price reacted badly to a challenge from Keeper Ballard as the two tussled for the ball, and retaliated with a stamp. Harlie was shown a straight red card by Referee Ricketts.

For a few minutes, it looked as if Hallen would get back into the game, but again Matt Fisher and then Simon Knight barely troubled Gearon with their efforts.

Eight minutes after the sending off, it was game over. Twyman broke from midfield and his mazy run took him past three Hallen defenders before he slid the ball home for a stylish solo effort.

Mace then put another telling cross over which Turner just failed to connect with, and as the game played out, Alex Hoyle had his effort saved after more good work by Turner.

In the last minute, Callum Brown nicked the ball from Ballard as he tried to shepherd it out for a goal kick, and his cross aimed at Turner was just cleared as Turner shaped to slot the ball into the empty net.

In the end it was a comfortable victory for the Swans, who entertain Champions Larkhall Athletic at Wisloe Rod on Wednesday (7.45pm) before they wind up their first season in the Western League next Saturday, when Bridport are the visitors (3.00pm).

Team: Gearon, Preece (Thwaite 47), Brown, Tunnicliff, Hoyle, Ward, Turner, Twyman, Price, Martin (Lane 57), Mace

Goals: Price 25, Twyman 68

Supporters Man of the Match: Alex Hoyle