



Hanwell Town **6** Croydon **5** (AET)



Date: Tue 17 November 2009

London Senior Cup

Ref: Dean Potter

Meeting Combined Counties League side Croydon, we reached the third round of The London Senior Cup where we will be away against the winners of the Brimsdown Rovers and Redbridge tie. However, it could have been so very different in a thrilling game which either side could have won. We made an excellent start playing some good football but without being able to create any clear cut chances and it was completely against the run of play at that stage that Croydon took the lead in the thirteenth minute. From a long ball forward, Phil Page with a strong header sent the ball into the path of Nigel Ikocodo. With a clear shooting chance, his shot lacked any real power but the ball found its way under Keiran Jimmy's body into the far corner of our net. If that goal had an element of good fortune about it, there was no doubting the quality of their second goal on twenty five minutes. An accurate cross by Dexter Babalola to the unmarked Ikocodo on the far post saw the ball knocked back into the middle for Phil Page to slide it past the helpless Keiran from close range.

We almost replied immediately, when a clever chip by Yassine Fehmi-Gil making his first full start for the club found the head of Lee O'Leary, looping the ball over the onrushing Croydon keeper Dean Cupit but the ball hit the top of the crossbar before going behind. However, just a minute later we had pulled a goal back when Charley Baverstock receiving the ball from Antony Rowlands played it into the path of Blaise O'Brien, who continued his recent goal scoring run driving the ball past Cupit low into the net. Minutes later we were denied what seemed to be a clear penalty when Charley was pulled back as he got goal side of Rob Bartley with only the keeper to beat. Five minutes before the break we drew level when a good build up down the right culminated with an excellent cross on the run by Yassine and an equally excellent diving header by Charley from close range that gave Cupit no chance of saving. The generally shared view in the boardroom at half time was that there were more goals to come in the second half but nobody could have envisaged the final scoreline.

We were forced into a substitution at half time with Ian Jimmy replacing Antony who had taken a couple of hard knocks to his ankle in the first period. Play was very even for the opening fifteen minutes of the second half, with Town's only real threat at goal coming from a fierce drive by O'Leary which went straight at Cupit. At the other end, a fierce cross shot by Ikocodo was blocked and then Page from a tight angle, chipped the ball across the face of the goal but it drifted wide of the far post.

We took the lead for the first time in the game in the sixty fifth minute when Lee was tripped in the box by Bartley as he moved onto a pass by Tashan Bradshaw. Blaise drilled the resultant kick home. This proved to be O'Leary's last action of the game as he was replaced by Aaron Wise available again after his seven game suspension period.. Joe Hart missed a good chance to score for Croydon as headed Mohamed Shuga'a's fiercely driven corner kick over the bar but they drew level with eight minutes to go when a good ball by Mark Roberts sent substitute Billy Chincharo through to slide the ball home. At this stage we made our third and final substitution of the night with Michael Buckley coming on in midfield for Chris. Three minutes we were ahead again thanks to a tremendous run down the left by Tashan, which culminated in a cross to the far post where Charley was on hand to score. It seemed certain that this goal would prove decisive but two minutes into injury time, we failed to close down Bartley as the ball was half cleared to him from a corner and he arrowed a left footed shot into the top corner of the net to send the game into extra time. Croydon almost took the lead in the opening minutes of the first period of extra time when a close range header from a corner was headed off our line by Yassine and Roberts's follow up shot cannoned off our crossbar to safety. In the one hundred and fourth minute of the game, we were back in the lead with Yassine again involved. He played the ball into the path of Charlie who did very well to round Jensen Grant close to the by-line before beating Cupit from close range, to complete his hat trick. Five minutes later in the second period of extra time, Michael's cross field pass found Yassine unmarked at the far post and he capped a terrific personal performance by scoring his first ever goal for the club, driving the ball across Cupit into the far corner. With some very tired legs on the field with both Tashan and Blaise hobbling in our line up, it seemed likely that this goal had sealed our victory but to their credit Croydon kept battling away and in the final minute of the game, Chincharo scored again, latching on to Babalola's through ball to beat Keiran in a similar fashion to his earlier goal. Very shortly afterwards, the final whistle was blown and we were through to the next stage of the competition. In the two London Senior Cup games that we have played this season, there have now been nineteen goals scored, not counting the penalty kicks that we needed to beat Cockfosters in the penalty shoot out in the

previous round

Hanwell Town

Croydon

1	KIERAN JIMMY		1	DEAN CUPIT	
2	ANTONY ROWLANDS		2	JOE HART	
3	GULAD ADEN		3	JOHN GLADWIN	
4	MATT KIDSON		4	JENSEN GRANT	
5	JASON TUCKER	Captain	5	ROB BARTLEY	Captain
6	LEE OLEARY		6	DEXTER BABALULA	
7	YASSINE FEHMI-GILL		7	NTIPADEM SOPHONIE	
8	CHRIS MILLS		8	MARK ROBERTS	
9	CHARLEY BAVERSTOCK		9	PHIL PAGE	
10	BLAISE O'BRIEN		10	NIGEL IKOCODO	
11	TASHAN BRADSHAW		11	MOHAMMAD SHUGA'A	
12	IAN JIMMY		12	LEWIS GODDARD	
14	KEITH ROWLANDS		14	BILLY CHINCHARO	
15	ARUN WISE		15	JAKE PITT	
16	MATT O'BRIEN		16		
17	MICHAEL BUCKLEY		17		

Goals:

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