

LANGFORD (2) v HANWELL TOWN (3)

SATURDAY 26TH SEPTEMBER 2009

SPARTAN SOUTH MIDLANDS LEAGUE-PREMIER DIVISION

At our seventh attempt, we at last recorded a league victory and in so doing climbed off the bottom rung of the league table. However, it was a game not without its controversy with three players receiving red cards for various offences.

On a beautiful afternoon, the first chance of the game fell to Langford's Lee Harmon who shot across the face of Keiran Jimmy's goal. Our first opportunity fell to Aaron Wise who shot wide after some good individual skill by Charley Baverstock, playing in an unaccustomed mid field position. Langford should have taken the lead after twenty minutes when a good cross field pass by Angus Stewart was turned back across goal by Ryan Nichol but Harmon delayed his shot, enabling Kieran to make a fine save at his feet. We took the lead after thirty two minutes when Chris Mills picking the ball up some thirty yards from goal, evaded two challenges before firing across Scott Walters into the far corner of the Langford net. Five minutes later, Mills missed a great chance to increase our lead when we were awarded a penalty after Joe Delasalle was adjudged to have pulled down Keith Rowlands from behind in the box. Walters diving to his left turned Chris's spot kick around the post.

The early stages of the second half proved to be rather ordinary stuff but on the hour mark we went two ahead when a superb ball by Aaron set Keith free and he drove the ball across Walters to notch his first goal for the club since scoring twice against London Colney way back in March 2008. With fifteen minutes remaining, Langford were awarded a penalty, the referee deciding that Keiran had pushed an opponent as a corner kick was taken. The referee choosing to ignore his assistant's flag which was raised prior to him pointing to the spot. Harmon lashed home the spot kick but Langford's Mark Wright in trying to wrestle the ball from Keiran's hands to take it back to the centre circle was ordered off as the assistant referee stated that he had kicked Keiran in the head, a figment of the assistant's imagination!!

Three minutes later we were again two ahead as a mistake by Delasalle gave Keith the opportunity to race away to steer the ball past the advancing keeper. With five minutes remaining, Aaron became the second player to receive a red card when he foolishly raised his hands in a scuffle with Nicholl. Six minutes into injury time, Ross Scotney volleyed a tremendous goal to make it 3-2 but incredibly there still remained time for Delesalle to get a red card for a second bookable offence and for Chris to hit the crossbar from fully thirty yards.

Side: K.Jimmy, A.Rowlands, Harris, Kidson, Tucker, Wise, Buckley, K.Rowlands, Baverstock, B.O'Brien and Mills. Subs used: I.Jimmy for A.Rowlands (78), L.Skinner for Baverstock (85) and A. Martin for K.Rowlands (90)