

## **Amateur Football Combination Report – 24<sup>th</sup> February 2007**

In the AFC Premier Division Old Parmiterians travelled to Old Aloysians in a battle between two sides hoping to join Meadonians and Hamptonians in the title chase and in a hard fought game the visitors took the points with a 2-0 win. Aloysians had the best chance of the first half as Chris Thomas hit the crossbar, but Parmiterians weathered the storm and after 35 minutes Caska Hoy fed Michael O'Donahue who ran from his own half, broke inside and fired home from 25 yards to open the scoring. Into the second half and Parmiterians had a number of chances to extend the lead, but couldn't take them with Martin Fook and Jay Jacques threatening but unable to convert, and finally with 70 minutes gone O'Donahue bent a free kick into the top corner to give the visitors a cushion. Aloysians continued to press, but Parmiterians, led by Barry Stevens held firm for a deserved 2-0 win.

With Old Meadonians rained off, Old Hamptonians had the opportunity to take a lead at the top of the Premier Division, but came unstuck at home to struggling UCL Academicals. Accies scored the only goal of the game after twenty minutes, as Andy Crotty crossed from the right, and the ball broke to Innis Pirrie who fired home from close to the penalty spot. Hamptonians had their share of possession, but Dan Chantler marshalled the Accies defence to keep the home team out. Into the second half, and with twenty minutes to go Lloyd Vanson missed the chance to extend the lead. Hamptonians pressured and looked likely to score, but Matt Harrison had their best chance when he broke through one-on-one but was foiled by Mark Dawson in the Accies goal to preserve the 1-0 win and give Accies three crucial points to move them out of the relegation spots.

In Senior One Hale End Athletic faced Glyn Old Boys on a heavy pitch. Both sides struggled to come to terms with the conditions and the first half an hour was very scrappy until the home side broke the deadlock. A Nick Ritchie throw in fell to Andy Edmonds who turned and fired home from 20 yards off the underside of the bar to give them a 1-0 half time lead. Into the second half and Glyn pressed for an equaliser, and halfway through finally drew level, as a long throw in was nodded in at the far post by Jay Rowe. The game now opened up as players from both sides tired, and Hale End scored the winner as Edmonds and Ritchie combined to set up Jason Waldon who ran on and slotted home for a 2-1 victory and three crucial points in their bid to regain Premier Division status.

Sinjuns Grammarians faced Wood Green Old Boys and in a scrappy game took an early lead as Chris Birch combined with Sean Randall to set up Steve Mead for the opener and the only goal of the first half. On 70 minutes Wood Green equaliser with a deflected scuffed shot by Scott McKenzie at the back post, and the game began to open up. Sinjuns now pressed for a winner, and Neil Brooks crossed for Neil Emmerson to head home from the penalty spot and seemingly clinch the points with five minutes to go. However, in the final minute, Grant Barry misjudged a punch and McKenzie poked home his second to give Wood Green a fortunate 2-2 draw.