

Amateur Football Combination Report – 28th April 2007

Bealonians travelled to Old Meadonians knowing they had to win, to prevent Meads winning the title, and to preserve their own title hopes. The opening exchanges were tight, with both sides looking promising, but Meadonians opened the scoring after 25 minutes as sloppy defending allowed Leon Smith and Kevin Smith to combine and cross for Colin Hawkins to poke the ball home for six years out. Quickly Bealonians hit back, and within a minute equalised as Gary Bryson crossed for Alan White to cut inside his man and slot home. With their tails up, Beals put Meadonians under huge pressure and they were disappointed to reach half-time without having taken advantage.

Into the second half and Bealonians looked certain to retake the lead, but Kris Sayers tipped a shot from Mark Churchill around the post, and shortly after Meadonians took advantage of another defensive mistake, Colin Hawkins latching onto a mishit clearance to chip home and regain the lead. Almost immediately Leon Smith then had a golden chance to extend the lead, firing over, but soon after he broke away again, beating the offside trap to cross for Kevin Smith to tuck the ball into the far corner and extend the lead. Bealonians continued to press, but the home team held firm until with two minutes to go Bryson curled a free kick into the top corner to reduce the deficit to 3-2, and give Meads a couple of panicky last minutes. However, Meadonians held out for the win, and an astonishing fifth consecutive Premier Division title.

HAC lost 2-0 away to Southgate County. Southgate opened the scoring just before half-time as they broke away and Mike Williams blasted the ball into the top corner from just outside the area. Into the second half and with no substitutes left HAC lost a player to injury, and in the heat struggled to get back into the game, and with quarter of an hour left Peter Eguae tucked home from six yards to seal the points.

The final Premier game saw Old Parmiterians win 1-0 away to UCL Academicals, a scoreline which should've been more emphatic. The only goal of the game came ten minutes into the second half when Scott Moore crossed the ball from the bye-line, Scott Lewis met at the far post and volleyed it past Mark Dawson. Parmiterians had other chances, but seemed reluctant to shoot unless they created the perfect opening, but their defence, superbly led by skipper Jamie Howe, held tight to take the points and move them up to third in the table.

If Senior One, Enfield Old Grammarians travelled to Old Danes needing a point to clinch promotion, and atone for last season's collapse when they missed out over their last few games when the title was at their mercy. Enfield came out of blocks fast and were 2-0 up after 15 minutes, through Jack Barry and Nigel Wick, but as the half progressed Danes looked stronger, and Enfield were happy with a two goal lead at half-time. The second half was all Danes, and after 60 minutes Dave Nicholls pegged the score back, and ten minutes later Roger Taylor equalised. The last twenty minutes saw Enfield fighting a rearguard action, but they held out for a 2-2 draw and the point needed to seal promotion.