

Amateur Football Combination Report – 3rd November 2007

With most sides involved in the London Old Boys Cup, UCL Academicals hosted Enfield Old Grammarians in the only Premier Division match.

Enfield started brightly and had already carved out two good chances in the first quarter of an hour, before a long punt over the top from goalkeeper Adam Chalk evaded the Accies central defenders, and Adam Herron ran on to sidefoot home and open the scoring. Shortly after, Enfield could've extended their lead as Herron shot across the goal, only to see Mark Dawson save the ball at fingertips, the rebound falling to Tom Miller at a tight angle, and his snapshot came back off the post and Accies cleared. This seemed to spur Accies into action, and they finally got into the game, starting to create chances, the best falling to Neil Gillard whose close range shot was saved by Chalk. On the half hour, Accies equalised when a long diagonal ball from Rick Hirst was met on the run from Adam Stainsby to head home. Just before half time Accies took the lead when Lloyd Vanson opened up the defence and fired home, Chalk making a valiant attempt to save the rising shot, but seeing it fly in off the cross bar.

In the second half Accies took control, and saw various half chances spurned to leave the game on a knife edge until the end, but Enfield rarely threatened to score the equaliser and Accies held out for a 2-1 victory.

In Cup action, Premier Division HAC travelled to Senior One side Old Suttonians and had the best of the early exchanges, only to fall behind as halftime approached as Daniel Smith pounced on a defensive mistake to open the scoring. HAC hit back immediately, Steve Onyans firing home from a tight angle to level the scores at half time. The early exchanges of the second half saw HAC with most of the possession, but few chances and with quarter of an hour to go Matt Garrard and Rob Seale combined to set up to hit the winner for Smith, and Sutts held on for the 2-1 victory.

Old Aloysians comfortably beat Hale End Athletic 3-0 in a battle of Premier Division sides. Aloysians opened the scoring through David Laird, rounding the keeper to slot home, and added a second before half time as Chris Thomas went on a mazy run and then fired home. Aloysians remained in control into the second half, and on the hour mark, Dave Norman's header was cleared off the line, but Laird pounced to add the third and kill off the game. Hale End huffed and puffed, Martin Treadway and Gary Foster going close, but never looked like getting back into the game.

Bealonians squeaked a narrow 1-0 win away to Salvatorians in a game of few chances on a difficult pitch not conducive to flowing football. Beals had the only real chance of the first half, Sam Bowen's shot just missing the far post. The second half saw both teams opened up the game, but Bealonians looked more likely to score, until finally with quarter of an hour to go, Bowen and Alan White combined to set up Gary Elliott who missed a golden chance heading against the post. Minutes later Elliott collected a clearance from a corner, spread it wide to Anthony Anderson and his pinpoint cross was met by Sam Bryson to head home the only goal of the game. Salvatorians pressed for the equaliser, but John Reid held firm in the Bealonians net to ensure the victory.