

Amateur Football Combination Report – 9th May 2009

With UCL Academicals already relegated, the key match in the Premier Division saw Old Salvatorians travel to Old Parmiterians, in a straight forward shoot-out to see who would join them in relegation, the draw favouring Parm's.

Both sides started nervously, with both sides threatening on the counter attack, but midway through the first half Salvos keeper John Gallagher collided with an opponent, knocking him unconscious, and the game was held up for ten minutes whilst paramedics were called, who confirmed no serious injury. Adrian O'Grady took over in goal, and the hiatus seemed to inspire Salvos, who ten minutes before half time took the lead as Graham Chick turned and fired home. Five minutes later, Brian Fitzgerald set free Cathal Murphy who was pulled down for a penalty, which Murphy stepped up to convert. Salvos weathered a storm at the start of the second half, but midway through Parm's pulled a goal back as the ball was pulled back for Scott Lewis to control neatly and fire home. Parm's continued to press for the equaliser, but couldn't find it, and Salvos held on for a 2-1 win to send Parm's down.

Champions Bealonians easily beat relegated Accies in a rout at Redbridge, Alex Grayburn opening the scoring following a Carl Taylor corner. The second half saw Ian Sawyer make it two with a lob from the edge of the box, and they added further goals from Alex Salmon, latching onto Sawyer's cross, and they completed a 4-0 result through Taylor to comfortably illustrate the gulf in class between the two sides.

In Senior One, third placed Old Belgravians and champions Minchendenians fought out a seven goal thriller, Belgravians opening quickly through a Paul Groves header from James Thomas' free kick, and extending it as Tim Hall was set through and finished neatly. Minch hit back, Groves turning into his own net to even his account for the game. In the second half, Minch levelled the scoring as Mark Nelson shot from 25 yards, apparently harmlessly, only to see the hapless Tom Greenwood dive over the ball, and quickly made it 3-2 as Tom Hannington fired home from a corner. Belgravians equalised, Ben Patton crossing for Groves to finish with a neat flick, but with five minutes to go, Paul Cannon broke free and slotted home at the near post.