

Hellenic League Premier Division

Saturday 20 April 2013

Ascot United 1-0 Slimbridge

Slimbridge's fourth game in seven day's resulted in a narrow 1-0 defeat at Ascot Utd thanks to a stunning 3rd minute strike from Josh Warren.

The Swans arrived at the racecourse ground on a glorious sunny afternoon after a 2 hour journey up the M4 but found themselves a goal down very early on when Jon Bennet's cross from the left was sweetly struck first time by Josh Warren from 18 yards out, leaving Dave Evans in the visitor's goal no chance.

Ascot nearly increased their lead on 8 minutes but Bennet's low drive was well saved by Evans.

In a game of very few chances the rest of the first half was very non-descript, Marvin Roberts went closest to opening the scoring for the Swans when Dan Robinson played a good ball to Dan Holloway who in turn found Roberts but the latter's shot was saved by Chris Grace's feet in the home goal and went out for a corner.

Ascot's centre forward Bennett tormented the Swans defence all afternoon and he was unlucky not to get on the scoresheet with a rasping drive which just cleared Evan's crossbar in the 35th minute. As halftime approached a good move between Robinson and Dean Turner ended with Dean Bernard shooting over.

Slimbridge started the second half the brightest and Roberts went close in the 50th minute when his shot from Barnard's cross was deflected wide for a corner.

Dan Holloway made a good run up the right in the 53rd minute, his pass found substitute Jamie Martin who's tame shot just skimmed the

crossbar. The first and only caution of the afternoon came a minute later, Dean Turner going into the referee's notebook for a trip on Ben Knight.

Two quick substitutions were made by the Swans on 55 & 62 minutes, Liam Harding replacing Dan Robinson and Alex Parrott coming on for Jack Twyman as Slimbridge tried to up the pace in search of an equaliser.

Ascot's Dave Hoar brought an excellent save from Dave Evans when he struck a shot from 20 yards out in the 73rd minute, Evans getting down low to his left to deny Hoar.

As the game petered out there was just one last chance for Slimbridge to salvage something for their efforts when Fred Ward's throw in found Roberts in the box who turned well and put a dangerous looking low cross into the six yard box but nobody could get on the end of it and the ball was cleared.

So for the second time this season, Slimbridge returned home from Ascot on the wrong end of a 1-0 defeat after their Hosts knocked them out of the FA Vase by the same score line back in August.

Slimbridge must now concentrate their efforts on Tuesday night Supplementary Cup Semi-Final against near neighbours Tytherington Rocks, kick off at Wisloe Road is 7.45pm.