

Hellenic League Premier Division

Tuesday 14 August 2012

Slimbridge 4-0 Wantage Town

Four second half goals saw the Swans run out convincing winners against an impressive looking Wantage Town side at Wisloe Road this evening. After another fairly scrappy and lacklustre first period, an inspired piece of play from Will Wellon gave the home side an early advantage in the second half, and three subsequent goals in a nine minute spell, two from Alex Higgs and a fourth from Stuart Gates sealed the victory.

The game started slowly, with few chances for either side in the first 15 minutes, a Tom Speers header from a Gates cross being the pick of the early exchanges. The visitors settled better than Slimbridge early on, and were beginning to create chances, although shots from Liam McCullough and Richie Claydon failed to trouble Dave Evans in the Swans' goal.

Wantage felt they may have had a shout for a penalty on 26 minutes, when a superb run by Gavin Jones was halted by an equally impressive tackle from Shane Anson.

Slimbridge broke back, and Liam Harding nearly nicked a goal when he found himself in space on 27 minutes, but his shot was wide of the post.

With just over half an hour on the clock, Karl Nash's header drifted just wide following a good corner delivery from Jack Twyman.

As the game reached the 45th minute, Wantage had another decent opportunity, when Captain Tom Malton's drive was just wide of the Swans goal, to leave the game goalless at the Half.

Three minutes into the second half, Will Wellon scored what may already be a strong candidate for goal of the season - after winning two challenges down the left flank, he looked up and saw Wantage Keeper Gareth Tucker off his line. From right on the touchline, and a good 35 yards goal from goal, his pinpoint shot cleared the stranded Keeper and drtopped into the far corner to put the home side ahead.

The goal galvanised the home side, and with Alex Higgs on for Nash, and Shaun O'Connor replacing Chris Fower, the home side began to create chances for themselves.

Harding came close on the hour mark - a corner was cleared to him on the edge of the box, and Tucker brought off a great save to keep out his goalbound shot.

On 71 minutes, the Swans doubled the lead - a quick break as Wantage pressed saw Higgs through one on one with the Keeper, and he kept his nerve to drill the ball home for Slimbridge's second.

Four minutes later, Higgs collected his second. A Dave Evans clearance was nodded on by O'Connor, and Higgs met the ball on the volley to leave Tucker no chance and grab his second of the night.

The Swans were not finished though, and another smooth move involving Higgs, Tom Paterson, who had come on for Dean Turner, and Stuart Gates saw Gates turn his man on the edge of the six yard box and slide home the Swans' fourth of the night.

Slimbridge now turn their attention to Friday night, when Ardley United are the visitors to Wisloe Road, but can face the game with confidence - two wins, six goals scored and none conceded in the League.

Team: Evans, Anson, Wellon, Inch, Speers, Harding, Turner (Paterson 71), Twyman, Fower (O'Connor 65), Nash (Higgs 58), Gates

Goals: Wellon 48, Higgs 71, 75, Gates 80
Supporters Man Of The Match: Will Wellon