

Western League Premier Division

Wednesday 11 March 2015

Cadbury Heath 2-1 Slimbridge AFC

The Swans again conceded late on to end up with nothing from a game they should have put away long before George Boon's winner with six minutes remaining took the points for the home side.

Despite creating the better chances over 90 minutes, Slimbridge were unable to capitalise on their opportunities, and slumped to their fourth defeat in the last five games. The loss of 12 precious League points in this period will come back to haunt them at the end of the campaign.

The game, on a very bobbly and heavy surface, started slowly, and it was a quarter of an hour before any proper chances were created. Freddy Ward saw his 25 yard effort cannon back off the Heath crossbar, before Matt Huxley headed just wide at the other end from a good cross from Matt Britton.

Adam Mace was the next to try his luck for the visitors, forcing Heath Keeper Mitch Norman to push his goalbound effort for a corner after good approach play from Sean Lawson and Paul Fahy on 19 minutes.

As Half time approached, Fahy was denied by a good stop with his feet from Norman after Lawson had played him through on goal, but on 38 minutes, Slimbridge were made to pay for their misses, when Sacha Tong was left unmarked to head home a corner and put Heath into the lead.

Two minutes later, the sides were level - Norman failed to collect a Ward cross, and the ball fell to Lawson 6 yards out, and he drilled the equaliser home.

Tong went close again in first half stoppage time, hitting the bar with a header from another Heath corner, but the sides went in even at the break.

The second half saw Heath step up the pressure - Dave Evans had to punch clear a long range effort from Joe Chandler, and then make a smart stop with his feet to deny Christian Lee in the early stages of the second period.

Sam Turl created a good opportunity for himself as Slimbridge got back into the game on 65 minutes, beating three men before forcing another good stop from Norman to deny the Swans Full Back.

The chances continued to come for Slimbridge - Lawson saw Norman make an impressive double save as he broke free on 67 minutes, before Mace was off target following good work from Fahy to set him up.

With 12 minutes remaining, Mace forced another save from Norman with a free kick after Turl was fouled just outside the Heath box, and then Lawson's volley from Fahy's cross saw more good work from the Heath Stopper to keep the ball out.

With 6 minutes remaining, a break from the home side saw George Boon left in space down the Heath left flank, and he beat Evans to put Heath back into the lead.

Despite playing the last two minutes of the game with Goalkeeper Evans playing as an outfield player as Slimbridge pressed and gained a free kick and then a corner, Heath held on to record the victory.

Slimbridge have no game now this Saturday, but are back at Wiloe Road next Saturday (21st, 3.00pm) when Bitton are the visitors for a League encounter.

Team: Evans, Turl, Brown, Rich Thwaite, Freeman (Odiero 71), Ward, Irvine (Hammond 80), Turner, Lawson, Fahy, Mace

Supporters Man of the Match: Rich Thwaite