

Slimbridge 0-2 North Leigh

Saturday 16th September

Two late North Leigh goals saw the visitors leave Thornhill Park with all three points, after both sides were very evenly matched for most of the game.

With just six minutes left on the clock, Swans' nemesis George Seacole pounced on a defensive error to put the visitors ahead, and a penalty for North Leigh with the last kick of the match from Michael Hopkins gave a very even game a lopsided scoreline. There will be plenty for Manager Freddy Ward to work on in the week ahead of the visit of Bristol Manor Farm next Saturday.

It was a very entertaining and even game throughout, with the first decent chance going to the visitors on three minutes - Swans' Keeper Ollie Hall making a great stop from Eddie Stevens' effort.

Four minutes later, Slimbridge had their first good opportunity, but Marley Thomas' effort was just off target after good work from Dean Turner had set him up.

North Leigh had a decent spell around the twenty minute mark, but Seacole was unable to take advantage of a good chance, while Josh Thomas brought another good stop for Hall with a dangerous shot on the half hour.

It was not all North Leigh though, and Dean Turner was just too high with a good effort at the other end, before Seacole just failed to get in the end of a penetrating cross from Connor Waldron a couple of minutes later.

Thomas had probably the best chance to break the deadlock for the visiting side after a good break down the North Leigh left, but scuffed his shot wide after he had done the hard work in making space for himself, to leave the scores even at the break.

The second half very much followed the pattern of the first and Rich Thwaite made a couple of good blocks to efforts from Seacole and Waldron, while Henry Birkett's early effort was the best Slimbridge attempt of the early second period.

On 56 minutes, Seacole had a header ruled out for offside by Referee Sarah Garrett, who had a very impressive afternoon.

After Birkett's long range effort was saved by North Leigh Keeper Manny Agboola, the game looked

as if it was beginning to drift towards a draw, as Hall made another good stop, this time from Michael Hopkins.

Hall made two further good stops from Sean Wood and then Seacole again, while at the other end, Joe Stokes charged down a clearance from Agboola, only to see the ball run out for a goal kick.

With six minutes remaining, the deadlock was broken - Rich Thwaite mishit a back pass to Hall, and Seacole pounced to convert and put the visitors ahead.

As North Leigh sensed victory, Adam Mace was forced into a goalline clearance from Will Wellon's header.

Two minutes into stoppage time, Thwaite was penalised for a tackle on Thomas, and Hopkins stepped up to convert the penalty, which proved to be the last kick of the match.

Team: Hall, Turl, Mace, Pring, Thwaite, Turner, Twyman (Luke Payne 69), Birkett, Lawson (Stokes 75), Nathan Payne (Harper-Emerson 60), Thomas

Supporters Man of the Match: Ollie Hall