

Evesham United 4-3 Slimbridge

Wednesday 28th August 2019

Swans throw away two goal lead in rain soaked thriller

For a second successive league game Slimbridge found themselves defeated after leading by two goals in what was a thrilling game for the neutral supporter, conceded 3 goals in a seven minute panic stricken spell mid-way through the second half.

Swans manager Lee Driver-Dickerson was forced into two changes with Jamie Martin and Rhys Sarson carrying injuries from last weekend, Sol Wanjau-Smith made his first start of the season alongside Under 18's striker Adam Bloomfield.

The visitors got off to the worst start possible, from the kick off the ball was pushed wide to Jack Cresswell on the left his pass forward found Kai Tonge in space to run into the box and curl the ball around Lewis Adams with 23 second on the clock. Slimbridge hit back two minutes later, Sol Wanjau-Smith on the left fired the ball across the goal and into the net to bring the scores level after just 3 minutes.

After scoring, Slimbridge took control of the first half closing down the Evesham midfield not allowing them to sit on the ball. Tom Handley firing a shot wide and fellow full back Will Peck surging down the flank drifted a cross into the box which was claimed by Lochlan Robertson in the home goal.

A free kick on the edge on the Evesham box after a foul on Myron Turner was floated over the wall by Wanjau-Smith but it just cleared the bar. A few minutes later an Evesham free kick from 35 yards out was struck straight at Adams for a simple catch.

It was Slimbridge that took a deserved lead on 25 minutes, Adam Bloomfield broke down the left and his pass found Wanjau-Smith on the overlap. However Wanjau-Smith was fouled on the edge of the box, Handley stepped up and hit a low drive across the box evading everybody and skipping into the net off the far post.

The visitors continued to create chances moving the ball around from the back, Dean Turner failed to get enough power behind his shot allowing Robertson an easy block. A Myron Turner attempted chip over the keeper was claimed well under the bar before Bloomfield burst through the defence but overran the ball and was lucky to claim a corner.

The home side started to come back into the game for the last 8-9 minutes Cresswell's run into the box was expertly blocked then Dodd put over a dangerous cross but Adams was out to claim the ball in the air. As halftime approached Wanjau-Smith was fouled again on the edge of the box, this time Handley struck the ball over the wall with Robertson able to gather.

Slimbridge continued to make chances early in the second half, the ball pushed forward to Bloomfield was touched on to Myron Turner his shot well saved by Robertson.

The Swans extended their lead on 49 minutes, a move from the back involving Dion Chambers playing the ball out wide to Wanjau-Smith on the left, his first time cross found Myron Turner in space on the right allowing him to sweep the ball past Robertson for his fourth goal in five games this season.

Evesham now had to push forward in search of goals and made three substitutions on 58 minutes that turned the game around. A minute later Christien Turner did well clearing the ball off the line in a goal mouth scramble only to find Lee Chilton on the edge of the box to riffle the ball into the back of the net.

Within a minute the scores were level, the ball was pushed back to Chilton from a crowded box where again he riffled the ball into the net unchallenged.

Five minutes later Robertson pulled off a one handed save tipping Chambers strike around the post however it was Evesham that struck again 2 minutes later on 66 minutes. Christien Turner blocking the ball on the line and clearing it out for a home side's corner. The corner swung in from the right went into the net off substitute Joel Letori at the near post.

With both teams tiring over the final 10 minutes, Slimbridge were given a way back into the game after Myron Turner was tripped inside the Evesham box and were awarded a penalty. Jack Horrell making his debut for the Swans stepped up and hit the ball low to the keeper's right just inside the post but Robertson guessed correctly and was able to make the save.

The final chance of the game fell to Slimbridge, throwing players forward Horrell struck from inside the box but Robertson bravely smothered the ball at point blank range to keep the shot out.

A return to league action this Saturday sees the first visit to Thornhill Park from Basingstoke Town with a 3pm kick off. Next Tuesday Slimbridge travel to Burnham for an Emirates FA Cup Preliminary round replay to decide who will face Tiverton Town in the next round. The club are running a coach to the game that will be leaving the ground at 4pm at a cost of £10 per person, see a committee member for booking details.

Slimbridge: Adams, Handley, Peck (Letori 58), Chambers, C Turner, White, Tuodolo, D Turner, Bloomfield (Horrell 82), M Turner, Wanjau-Smith (Tucker-Dixon 62)

Unused subs: Ford, Bekinsale

Evesham United: Robertson, Roberts, Smikle (Morrison 58), Paddock, Maslen-Jones, Mcgrath, Dodd, Bragoll (Reynolds 58), Tonge, Chilton, Cresswell (Sangha 58)

Attendance: 208