

Mangotsfield United 2-3 Slimbridge

Southern League Div. One South

Saturday 24th October 2020

Swans flying high after last minute winner on the road

The Swans move up to third in the league table after a hard fought and last minute victory against a tough and resilient Mangotsfield side that deserved to record their first points of the season. At the same time the reserves moved into top spot in their league recording victory at home to SC Inkberrow.

Mangotsfield playing with the wind behind them pressured the visiting defence from the start; a first minute corner was cleared off the line by Nick Humphreys the subsequent corner was initially cleared to Harry Haughton who fired his effort over the bar. Haughton then tried a shot from distance but Swans keeper Lewis Adams was well placed to make the save.

At the other end Edji Mbunga skied his shot over the bar after a good team move from the back, Jay Malshanskyj then had a shot blocked on the left of the box. The home side looked dangerous pressing forward with Olaoluwkitan Jaiyeoba effort being blocked inside the box and then a few minutes later Jaiyeoba causing the Swans defence more difficulties this time blocking a shot wide for a home corner.

A flurry of corners and a free kick for the home side eventually saw Adams catch the free kick from the left to give the visitors a bit of breathing space.

On 18 minutes Will Hawes chested down a long ball forward his cross finding the head of Mbunga whose effort was saved by keeper Jakob Glover. The visitors took the lead a minute later, Hawes played in Malshanskyj down the left he flicked the ball over the full back and hitting a first time shot across the goal and into the far corner.

Mangotsfield continued to put pressure on the Swans but just failing to hit the target, Jaiyeoba firing over and then Harvey Baker heading over. Slimbridge should have conceded on 36 minutes, the impressive Jaiyeoba racing through the Swans defence and beating the outrushing Adams only to fire wide with an open goal in front of him.

Still camped in the visitors half the home side continued to pile on the pressure gaining a series of free kicks and corners but not able to make them count until the 43rd minute. A corner from the right taken by Abe Noad sailed straight in at the far post to level the scores at half time.

Slimbridge made a change at half time, Malshanskyj who appeared to have picked up a knock was replaced by Johan Flo. The second half started much as the first finished with Mangotsfield continuing to cause the visitors trouble at the back.

Jaiyeoba had a shot cleared and the follow up from Mathew Binding clearing the bar. A back header from Ben Deakin was saved on the line by Adams and the subsequent corner was hooked off the line in the crowded box. After picking up a cross from the right Jaiyeoba fired wide.

On 58 minutes Adams was called into action saving Noads shot from the left as the home side looked the more likely to get the next goal. A rare move forward saw Slimbridge gain a corner, Hawes bouncing the kick off the top of the cross bar trying to repeat Noads successful effort in the first half.

The introduction of Jamie Martin with 20 minutes remaining appeared to lift the visitors, Martins cross blocked in the box then Dan King who had a quiet game up until this point saw his cross from the left blocked and out for a Swans corner. Glover did well to tip the corner over the bar as it dipped into the box.

On 79 minutes Slimbridge took the lead, a short corner from Hawes found Joel White his shot was flicked into the bottom corner by Flo. The home side failed to give up and four minutes later were on level terms again, Adams got his fingers to a cross from the left but the ball fell to the feet of Wayne Nderemani who hit the back of the net from 6 yards out.

As the game entered the last five minutes Mangotsfield continued to pile forward in search of a winner, Harry Simons long range effort sailing over the bar. At the other end King played in Flo whose effort was inches wide.

A series of corners for the home side eventually saw Adams punch clear. As the game entered injury time a Swans breakaway saw Hawes take the ball forward into the home sides half with only one defender back squared left to Joe Stokes who then played in Flo his shot was blocked by Glover but the in running King fired the follow-up into the net to give the visitors victory with the last kick of the game.

Next week sees the Slimbridge first team travel to Paulton Rovers on Saturday while the reserves travel to Evesham on Monday night in the Floodlit Cup and then travel to Hartpur University on Saturday.

Slimbridge: L Adams, B Deakin, N Humphreys, M Ford (J Stokes 63), O Giles, J White, J Malshanskyj (J Flo 46), M Turner, W Hawes, D King, E Mbunga (J Martin 70)

Unused Subs: A Hainault

Goals: J Malshanskyj 20, J Flo 79, D King 90+2

Attendance: 165

Supporters man of the match: Myron Turner