

Match Reports

Frome Town 2-0 Slimbridge **Pitching In Southern League Div. One South** Saturday 28th August 2021

Improved Swans lose to clinical Robins

There were two changes to the Swans line up with Jamie Martin and Johan Flo added to the starting line-up replacing Ben Deakin who had not recovered from an injury sustained at Marlow and Marley Thomas dropping to the bench.

The overall performance was much improved on last week's cup exit with the team playing at a higher tempo with a slicker passing game throughout. Had Ben McLean's shot crept inside the post rather than striking it just before half time the final score may have been very different.



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Slimbridge started the game brightly and had much of the early possession, Ben Pictor striking a long range effort at keeper Seth Locke. A Frome attack saw Rex Mannings pass find James Ollis who's shot from the edge of the box flew wide of the visitor's goal.

The home side took the lead on 17 minutes full back Joseph O'Loughlin found space down the left and his pin point cross to the far post was tapped in by Mannings. Frome took control of the game with Mannings forcing a save from Adams a couple of minutes later.

A last ditch tackle by Ben Hands denied Ollis a goal scoring opportunity, the resulting corner was cleared by the under pressure Swans defence. The visitors however managed to carve out a few chances, Pictor's cross was cleared by the home defence and fell kindly to Martin but his long range shot was just wide.

Slimbridge's best chance of the game came 5 minutes before half time, some Edji Mbunga trickery on the left enabled him to lay the ball into the path of McLean who unleashed a 30 yard strike across goal that struck the post with Locke beaten.

In first half injury time Johan Flo and Mbunga both had strikes towards goal but failed to hit the target.

The first move of the second half from the home side saw Slimbridge fall further behind. Adams turned O'Loughlin fierce strike from the left around the near post. The resulting corner saw Ollis scramble the ball into the net extending Frome's lead.

Slimbridge failed to give up with Mbunga and Martin working hard down the wings carving out crosses into the box. At the other end Pictor was positioned well to head away Jonathan Davies effort with Adams stranded. On the hour Pictor delivered a cross from the left to the back post with Martins header just wide of the goal.

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The visitors continued to play their passing game and despite spells of pressure they failed to get on the score sheet with the best chance falling to substitute Adam Price with his shot just inches wide past the post.

The Swans now face a run of three home games starting on Bank Holiday Monday afternoon welcoming local neighbours Cinderford Town to Thornhill Park. Next Saturday Winchester City return in a rearranged fixture that was originally abandoned due to floodlight failure.

The Under 18s start their season on Tuesday when they visit Odd Down (Bath) in the FA Youth Cup while the reserves play at home to the Longlevens development side on Friday evening at 7:45pm.

Slimbridge: L Adams, T Lawrence, B Pricor, B McLean, B Hands, N Dennis, J Martin, M Ford, W Hawes, J Flow, E Mbunga,

Subs Used: M Thomas, J Annear, A Price

Attendance: 262

Supporters player of the match: Nathan Dennis