

Mon 21st Apr 2014

Bishop's Stortford FC Match Report



Bromley FC



Bishop's Stortford FC



Bromley 3 - 2 Bishop 's Stortford : HT 0 - 1 : Att 549

The Skril South

The nightmare end to the season and the miserable Easter weekend continued for Stortford as they conspired to lose for the second time in three days after going ahead. They had surrendered a one goal advantage two days earlier against Sutton United but at Hayes Lane they lost after they had netted two goals in five minutes either side of the interval. Three goals in the last half hour won the points for Bromley to consolidate their "play off" place.

The result meant that apart from not winning one of their last seven "away" matches the Blues had only recorded one victory in their last 18 Skril South contests.

There was just one change to Rod Stringer 's team that had lost to Sutton United with Harry Baker coming into the side in place of Matt Johnson who was on the bench. The Lilywhites' starting line-up included three ex Blues players – keeper Joe Welch, Ashley Nicholls and Adam Bailey-Dennis.

Bromley started well and territorially were on top for most of the first half. A side-foot volley by Brendan Kiernan from 12 yards was just wide in the 4th minute and leading goalscorer Bradley Goldberg shot over the top from 25 yards eight minutes later. Stortford seemed content to sit back in defence as the Kent side continued to dictate.

However, in the 24th minute, Jordan Brown laid a long ball down the left flank for Harry Baker to chase and collect and his chip goalwards passed the advancing Joe Welch but dropped wide of the near post.

The hosts came back and Joe Wright held low efforts at goal from Kiernan and Goldberg either side of the half-hour mark. They went closer five minutes before the break as Joe Anderson swung in a cross from the left and Bromley number nine Jay May headed straight at from 15 yards.

Stortford took the lead with only their second shot of the afternoon with one minute of normal time left before the break. Harry Baker was on the wrong end of a strong challenge from Adam Bailey-Dennis 25 yards from goal. MICHAEL RICHENS took the resultant free-kick and with a precision shot sent the ball round the defensive wall and low inside a post past Welch 's despairing dive to his left (0-1).

Bromley reacted to the reversal with a couple of raids in stoppage time that nearly produced an equalising goal. An attack on the left ended with Bradley Goldberg closing on goal but Jordan Brown stopped him as he was about to shoot with an excellent blocking tackle. Then a minute later Ashley Nicholls struck a long range shot that Joe Wright turned over the bar.

Half time: 0-1

The Blues, kicking up the slope in the second half, had to make a change at the restart as Harry Baker was suffering with ankle ligament damage incurred by Adam Bailey-Dennis ' tackle and didn 't return and was replaced by Matt Johnson.

Johnson had a hand in the Blues second goal just three minutes after the interval. In an attack that started on the right the mid-fielder switched the play out to JOHNNY HERD on the left who advanced towards the edge of the box with a great inter passing movement with Reece Prestedge and finished with a superb left footer high past Welch 's dive (0-2).

The goal seemed to act as more of a spur to the hosts than Stortford and Goldberg was close in the 53rd minute following Jay May having headed down Brendan Kiernan 's cross and the Lilywhites pulled a goal back four minutes later. Substitute Louis Dennis, who had just come on to replace Kiernan, sent a bobbling low cross into the box from the right and although Joe Wright spread himself to make a fine blocking save to keep out Pierre Joseph-Dubois ' close range attempt JAY MAY drilled the ball low into the corner of the net from 10 yards (1-2).

The pressure from the Kent side increased and when a Joe Anderson corner in the 62nd minute wasn 't cleared a shot from Louis Dennis was not far off the target. Then a free-kick from Danny Waldren deep to the far side of the box was met by a header from Jay May that Wright saved well.

However, the equaliser wasn 't long in coming. In the 77th minute Anderson crossed from the left and when Joe Wright didn 't hold substitute Elliott Buchanan 's shot BRADLEY GOLDBERG slotted the loose ball into the net (2-2).

Bromley continued on the offensive and they clinched the winner ten minutes later just three minutes from the end of normal time. A free-kick on the left from Joe Anderson into the box saw Joe Wright come out too late to punch the ball away and DANNY WALDREN headed past him and into the vacated net (3-2)

There was four minutes of stoppage time and in that time the Blues tried hard to rescue a point. An Anthony Church long range attempt was wide and then Michael Richens and substitute Luke Milbourne combined to set up Reece Prestedge but the skipper 's 20 yard drive was a couple of feet over the bar.

Referee David Woolford booked Callum McNaughton and Adam Bailey-Dennis during the match.

Full time: 3-2

BISHOP 'S STORTFORD: Joe Wright; Michael Richens; Johnny Herd; Ashley Miller; Callum McNaughton; Jordan Brown; Harry Baker (Matt Johnson 46 mins); Sam Cutler (sub – Luke Milbourne 76 mins); Brian Woodall (sub – Josh Fagbohun 61 mins); Anthony Church; Reece Prestedge.

Unused substitutes: Cliff Akurang and Sam Cowler.

BROMLEY: Joe Welch; Jack Holland; Joe Anderson; Ashley Nicholls; Rob Swaine; Adam Bailey-Dennis; Pierre Joseph-Dubois (sub – Elliott Buchanan 76 mins); Danny Waldren; Jay May (sub – Jake Reid 81 mins); Bradley Goldberg; Brendan Kiernan (sub – Louis Dennis 56 mins).

Unused substitutes: Taylor Parmenter and Ali Fuseini.