

Wednesday 15th April 2015

BOREHAM WOOD (BLUES) 1 BISHOP'S STORTFORD 2
(FOOTBALL CONFERENCE YOUTH ALLIANCE – ESSEX/HERTS
DIVISION)

Stortford returned from their Easter break with a hard earned victory at the Old Elizabethans Sports Ground as a stoppage time penalty from Jack Isherwood brought them the three points.

The contest was played in warm breezy conditions and it was no surprise that a largely scrappy affair ended with some very tired players. Although they looked vulnerable at the back at times Stortford had the edge for most of the match.

An early shot from Aaron Thomas was parried down and away by Wood keeper Abhushan Pant and the stopper also turned a 40 yard free-kick from Lukeman Agbomabiwon over the bar in the 12th minute. Thomas was then narrowly wide with a low effort after a pass into the area from Agbomabiwon in the 20th minute.

The visitors' defence conceded a free-kick in a dangerous situation in the 25th minute but Stephen Robinson held on to Timur Koymen's shot comfortably and a minute later a Stortford attack up the right flank produced the opening goal. Alex Warman supplied the cross and after Jack Isherwood's header was pushed up into the air by the keeper the ball came down via the bar for Mason Naylor to nod in from point blank range at the far post.

Stortford looked likely to increase their lead before the break against an unsure defence. However they failed to make much impression inside the box with Warman's volley of a loose ball over the bar in the 33rd minute being the closest to another goal for them. Timur Koymen nearly snatched an equaliser with a low shot past the near post after a free-kick from Jetmir Brija and Wood eventually levelled the scores five minutes from the break after slack play by the Stortford defence. A move up the left wing was finished by Timmy Obisanya who shot low into the far bottom corner from an acute angle .

Play became more scrappy after the restart with both sides finding it hard to create openings but Stortford had a let off in the 69th minute when hesitation by the defence allowed Obisanya to advance on goal and hit the base of Stephen Robinson's right hand upright.

Rene Leacock, twice, and Lukeman Agbomabiwon with long range attempts went close and another shot from distance by the latter in the 84th minute was only a foot over the target.

Then in the first minute of added time Stortford broke the deadlock. A long ball down the right touchline by Ben James resulted in substitute Ben Smith and Jack Isherwood linking and the ball was worked into the middle where Aaron Thomas tried a shot at goal and saw it hit a defender's hand on the line. The referee immediately awarded a spot-kick which skipper Isherwood confidently converted.

BISHOP'S STORTFORD: Stephen Robinson; Ben James; Rene Leacock; Lukeman Agbomabiwon; Bryn Thorpe; Alex Askri; Mason Naylor; Danny Palmer; Jack Isherwood; Aaron Thomas; Alex Warman (sub – Ben Smith 52 mins). Unused substitute: Callum Lynskey