

BARKINGSIDE 1 BLUES 1

Scott Shulton marked his return to the Blues with a goal as Gordon Boateng's team drew 1-1 at Barkingside in a low-key opening pre-season friendly, on Tuesday.



Both goals were scored early in the game, which was played at the Met Police ground in Chigwell, with Shulton's early strike being quickly equalised by the hosts.

Boateng was pleased with the display as he took the chance to look at a large number of players:

"Today was a great test for us especially playing on a park pitch bringing us back to real grass roots football" he said.

"It was very good to have a look at our trialists and some of the first team, we played two mixed teams, there were lots of positives to take out of the game,

as well lots of developments points for us to take back to training and work on.

"We created a lot of chances could have easily scored 6 or 7 but that is preseason for you, we would rather be creating chances then not at all, preseason is all about getting all the rust out of our system and being prepared for the league season, we need time for this new squad, we have been assembling to gel and we I am sure we will get there.



"It was good for us to play on surface like we did those types of difficult conditions will hold us In good stead for when we play in October and November when pitches are not great and also when we have to play in cup competition at lower division sides, this will get out mentally right and enable us to a professional job and adapt to surfaces."