

BLUES 1 HUNGERFORD TOWN 2

Blues were unable to build on Chace O'Neill's first half goal as they slipped to defeat against Hungerford Town, on Tuesday evening.



The result maintained the Crusaders unbeaten start to life in the Vanarama National League South while Blues dropped to 18th in the fledgling table.



It was another tale of missed chances for Gordon Boateng's side despite changes to the side which saw Mikel Suarez and Kyle Asante make their first league appearances of the season while new signing Evans Kouassi was named as substitute.



The newly-promoted visitors started well with

chances for James Clark and skipper Matt Day before Boateng's side took a 24th minute lead. Former Reading keeper George Legg flapped Dominic Green's cross and O'Neill sent a perfect chip over Legg and a couple of defenders.

Asante went close to doubling the advantage but Legg redeemed himself by saving well but the hosts were dealt a blow five minutes before the break when captain Johnny Herd limped off to be replaced by Anthony Furlonge.

Joe Wright saved well from Luke Williams early in the second half but a triple substitution from the visitors proved to be key as they levelled on 56 minutes.

The goal has an element of fortune as Day's shot across the box appeared to be going wide, only for Mike Jones to meet it at the far post and slot home.



Kouassi joined the action in place of Green with Joe Benjamin replacing Asante as Boateng looked for the killer goal but it was the visitors who sealed the points 14 minutes from time when Wright did well to save from Williams, only to see the visiting player fire home the rebound.

The home side had a couple of half chances to snatch a point, but with Hungerford comfortable to shut up shop, Blues slipped to their third single goal loss of the campaign.

Blues: J Wright, P Rodgers, J Herd (A Furlonge 40), T Eyong, T Moore-Azille, C Vilcu, K Asante (J Benjamin 71), J Ekim, M Suarez, C O'Neill, D Green (Kouassi 59). Unused subs R Auger, T Lovelock.