

Enfield Town 2 Blues 1

Lewis Dark's late goal wasn't enough to salvage a point at Donkey Lane, on Tuesday.

Stortford's game followed a familiar pattern to the previous two with them starting slowly before the break and improving on the restart. They also seemed to lack conviction until they had a late rally. They did have three good shouts for spot-kicks during the match all turned down by referee Alex Rayment who was generally weak throughout the contest.



There was just one change in the Blues starting eleven with Jordan Wescott, who had made his 50th Stortford appearance three days earlier when coming on as a substitute, replacing Chi Osadebe who was on the bench. Another substitute was newcomer Isaac Nkosi. The home line-up included former Blues Joe Wright, Sam Hatton and the influential Matt Johnson.

Although Wright went walk-about to midway in his own half and was lucky to maintain possession in the opening minutes, Stortford were soon on the back-foot and fell behind in the 11th minute. Remi Sutton played the ball forward to Sam Chabey in space and from 23 yards he beat Calum Kitscha with a low drive inside the keeper's right-hand post.

Ryan Charles was close with a shot on the turn from the right-hand side of the box in the 16th minute that only cleared the bar by a foot. Then in the 24th minute the

former Canvey Island player went down heavily in the box following a challenge by a defender. The official waved away Stortford appeals and within a minute Stortford found themselves two goals down. Hatton played the ball up the right and Lewis Taaffe took the ball on and crossed low past Kitscha for Sam Youngs to convert.

Taaffe went close shortly afterwards but when Jamie Cureton was wrestled to the ground on the edge of the box on the half-hour Stortford again had reasons to feel aggrieved with the Referee's decision. It did, however, herald a short spell when the Blues had the better of the action.

But before the break Kitscha had to make a good save to stop a Remi Sutton drive at the foot of the post and then when the same player went on a solo run into the box the Blues keeper had to dive at his feet and hold the ball to deny the Town player.



After the hosts had begun the second half with a slight edge Stortford came much more into the picture and Cureton, working himself into space on the left, saw his low effort held by Wright. The third penalty shout came soon afterwards as Johnville Renee fell between two Enfield defenders. The hosts looked dangerous when they broke forward at speed and striker Liam Hope had an effort well parried away for a corner by Kitscha in the 63rd minute.

Charles was just wide with a long range shot in the 68th minute but, five minutes

later Chaney shot off target when put through one-on-one with the Blues keeper. Town sat back as Stortford pushed forward in the last fifteen or so minutes. An Alfie Mason corner on the right saw Cureton, past the back post, fire a shot that Wright saved.



In the 81st minute Stortford reduced the arrears as Elliott Ronto's flag-kick from the left was headed in from close range by skipper Dark.

The Blues searched for a late equaliser but it wasn't to be. In the first of three added minutes after a normal time Cureton, receiving a pass from Ronto just inside the box sent his shot just over the bar and then Enfield substitute Brandon Adams shot over when clear, before, in the very last action of the match Dark, at the far upright, couldn't quite get his head on a deep Ronto free-kick.

STORTFORD: Calum Kitscha; Jordan Wescott (Chi Osadebe 70) ; Chris Gregan; Lewis Dark; Damien Green; Sam Robbins; Alfie Mason; Elliott Ronto; Jamie Cureton; Johnville Renee; Ryan Charles.

Unused substitutes: Jack Thomas, Max Brassington, Marcus Crowther and Isaac Nkosi.

ENFIELD TOWN: Joe Wright; Sam Hatton; Remi Sutton; Matt Johnson; Taofiq Olomoewe; Rian McLean; Lewis Taaffe; Sam Youngs; Liam Hope (Brandon Adams 64); Sam Chaney (Junior Mubiayi 86); Bilal Sayoud (Mickey Parcell 64).

Unused substitutes: Mason Tunbridge and Jack Hockney.

Referee: Alex Rayment

Attendance: 459



BOGNOR REGIS TOWN 3 BISHOP'S STORTFORD 0

BLUES' boss Adam Flint admitted he was frustrated as his side conceded three late goals to crash to defeat at Bognor, on Saturday.

"I'm disappointed with Saturday but for 70 minutes we competed well" he said.

"But with Lewis Dark and Ryan Charles struggling with injuries early on it was an uphill battle. We had a couple of chances first half with Ryan's header cleared off the line and a good chance for the ball to be squared for a tap in which didn't quite get there". The result saw Blues continue to search for their first victory of the season while the win lifted Bognor up to second spot in the league table.

Blues had begun the match brightly and although the hosts shaded the possession percentage Flint's side were unlucky to see the ball cleared off the line twice before the break. After the restart it was a different story once Bognor had taken the lead with eighteen minutes left and they finished the match well on top.

Stortford weren't helped by picking up three injuries in the contest with skipper Dark (calf muscle), Charles (sore glute) and Johnville Renee (hip) all having to leave the pitch before the end.

The Blues' squad saw Toib Adeyemi make his league debut in the centre of defence with Damien Green absent on holiday. Chi Osadebe returned to the starting lineup and Jordan Wescott was on the bench. Also on the bench were Isaac Nkosi, who was to enter the action in the second half replacing Charles, and striker Jake Cass recovering from injury.

On the Rocks bench was their new signing Mason Walsh who made a number of appearances for Stortford in the 2015/16 campaign whilst on loan from AFC Bournemouth.

The early action saw the Rocks' Bradley Lethbridge shoot wide from the edge of the box and Stortford's Chris Gregan have his cross from the left punched away for a corner by keeper Dan Lincoln. Gregan was also causing concerns to the home defence with his long throws into the penalty area.

Adeyemi did well in the 15th minute to block the ball in the six yard box to keep out a Dan Smith short cross at the expense of a corner. The first near miss for the Blues occurred shortly afterwards. Defender Archie Edwards' attempted headed clearance from an Alfie Mason corner rebounded goalwards off of Charles and fellow defender Calvin Davies, on the goal-line, somehow managed to deflect the ball over his own bar with his head and shoulder. Inexplicably referee Craig Green awarded a goal-kick when there should have been another corner.

Seconds later the Rocks' defence had another escape when Charles intercepted the ball following a Bognor defensive mistake and cutting in from the left squared the ball into the middle instead of taking a shooting opportunity.

Then Chi Odsadebe went on a run towards the box that ended with a weak finish past the far upright and at the other end Jimmy Muitt's drive was close past the post.

Stortford's second near miss was ten minutes from the interval. Again it came from a corner, this time from Elliot Ronto on the left. Charles close range header looped over keeper Dan Lincoln and was scrambled away from the goal-line by Davies and Edwards before substitute Thomas Scutt finally cleared upfield.

Five minutes later Jamie Cureton was fouled 25 yards out and Ronto's free-kick was over the target.

Scutt missed a chance for the hosts when he headed wide from a Muitt cross before Dark

departed injured to be replaced by Jordan Wescott.

In the third minute of added time, Edwards put Dan Smith clear down the middle but the striker was denied by Calum Kitscha who turned the ball aside to make an excellent stop.

The Blues keeper was soon in action on the restart holding on a shot from Muitt and Stortford soon lost Charles when he hobbled off the pitch.

The only time Stortford threatened the Rocks in the second period came in the 51st minute following Ronto's deep free-kick from the right that Adeyemi headed towards the inside of the back post. However, Lincoln managed to turn the ball away for a corner.

The hosts were showing greater urgency in the play compared to the first half and were getting well on top in midfield at this stage although their chances were limited due to them being caught offside by Stortford's defence.

Lincoln held the ball at Adeyemi's feet in the 66th minute after a promising attack but Rocks skipper Harvey Whyte struck an acute angled effort that Kitscha saved well at the near post. With Bognor's pressure mounting they eventually took the lead in the 72nd minute. Doug Tuck swept the ball out to Muitt on the right who advanced down the wing before finding Bradlet Lethbridge in the middle and it was a simple task for him to net from close range.

A minute later Kitscha kept out a shot from Scutt but in the 76th minute the hosts doubled their lead.

Following a corner that wasn't cleared by the Blues defence Tuck miscued his shot from the edge of the box but the ball fell kindly into the path of Dan Smith and he hammered a rising shot high into the net inside Kitscha's right-hand post.

With Stortford forced back and defending deep they conceded a third goal in the 82nd minute as substitute Nkosi fouled Edwards as the Bognor player ran into the box. Kitscha

dived the right way but was unable to stop Smith's powerful penalty into the corner.

In added time Osadebe's long range shot was just over the target and just before the final whistle Kitscha produced another fine save to stop Mason Walsh getting his name on the scoresheet.

STORTFORD: Calum Kitscha; Johnville Renee (Max Brassington 90); Chris Gregan; Lewis Dark (Jordan Wescott 43); Sam Robbins; Toib Adeyemi; Alfie Mason; Elliott Ronto; Jamie Cureton; Chi Osadebe; Ryan Charles (Isaac Nkosi 50).

Unused substitutes: Marcus Crowther and Jake Cass.

BOGNOR REGIS TOWN: Dan Lincoln; Calvin Davies; Archie Edwards; Doug Tuck (Marley Ridge 83); Chad Field; Keaton Wood; Harvey Whyte; Tommy Block (Thomas Scutt 34); Dan Smith; James Muitt (Mason Walsh 79); Bradley Lethbridge.

Unused substitutes: Harvey Sparks and Corey Heath.

Referee: Craig Green

Attendance: 482