

Blues 1 Leatherhead 1

An 89th minute goal from Jake Cass on his Blues debut gave the hosts a share of the points with the Tanners in a disappointing contest.



Cass, who missed the pre-season through suspension and injury was playing up front in Adam Flint's starting line-up for the first time but Stortford were without Jamie Cureton who was unavailable. Damien Green and Jordan Wescott returned to the starting eleven but they continued to be without Jack Thomas who was serving the second match of a three match suspension following his red card on the opening day of the season.

Stortford had started the match in positive fashion and Alfie Mason had an early shot blocked and wasn't far off target with a volley after a corner had been cleared out to him.

Cass won a key header in midfield that led to Toib Adeyemi sending Chi Osadebe running into the left angle of the box where he was brought down by keeper Craig Ross running

out of his goal. The incident in the 14th minute resulted in a penalty but when Osadebe took the spot-kick himself Ross saved it diving to his right.

The Blues then had the edge in a midfield battle and although Jerry Nnamani was close with a header from a Robert Cullen corner midway through the half the hosts had the chances to have gone ahead before the interval with Cass shooting inches wide. Johnville Renee was looking lively and Osadebe should have done better when put through by Adeyemi finishing weakly when clear on goal.



Five minutes from the break Cass, collecting a Sam Robbins pass, was again in with a chance but Nnamani stopped the striker with an excellent tackle. It came as something of a surprise when the visitors took the lead in the 43rd minute when a free-kick from Robert Cullen on the left was headed inside the near upright by Shaun Okojie.



In the last minute of the half Cass seemed to be barged off the ball in the box by a Tanners' defender whilst Okojie struck a speculative effort over the bar at the other end.

Stortford keeper Callum Kitscha made a fine save to stop Elliot Benyon from scoring shortly after the break with a shot on the turn and the Surrey side looked the better side as the half progressed but substitute Ryan Charles drilled a low shot just wide the target and Cass was also close firing low just wide of the far post from the edge of the box before the new striker equalised very late as he fastened on to a long pass over the top from Charles on the left and drove fiercely past Ross from an angle.



STORTFORD: Calum Kitscha; Sam Robbins; Chris Gegan; Lewis Dark; Damien Green; Toib Adeyemi; Alfie Mason (Elliott Ronto 74); Jordan Wescott; Jake Cass; Chi Osadebe (Ryan Charles 74); Johnville Renee.

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

LEATHERHEAD: Craig Ross; Will Salmon; Will Seager; Matt Drage; Paul Semakula (Andrew Blake 61); Jerry Nnamani (Ryan Richefond 46); Daniel Gallagher; Robert Cullen (John Ufuah 78); Elliot Benyon; Travis Gregory; Shaun Okojie

Unused substitutes: Reece Deakin and Balai Dembele.

Referee: George Laflin

Attendance: 260