



THE ARTHURIAN LEAGUE

(AFFILIATED TO THE AMATEUR FOOTBALL ALLIANCE)

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ESTABLISHED 1961

Representative Team Match Report

Arthurian League 7 - 1 The Football Association

Played at Hanwell Town F. C. on Monday 2nd November 2009, k.o. 7pm

Hanwell Town F.C. hosted the Arthurian League Rep. Team's first outing in 2009. A youthful squad was assembled with representatives from six clubs in the top two leagues. Rep. Team veterans Quentin Baker (Old Harrovians), James Butcher (Lancing Old Boys), Matt Bailey (Old Carthusians), Richard Griston (Old Carthusians) and Oliver Compton (Old Chigwellians) were joined by no fewer than seven debutants.

The FA arrived with a large squad and a crisp England strip that was muddled physically and most probably psychologically by what unfolded over the 90 minutes.

Before kick-off there was a perfectly observed minute's silence to pay respects to Arthurian League Vice-President Andrew Greves (Old Ardinians), an enthusiastic and supportive member of the Committee who sadly passed away in October.

The AL began slowly but, as confidence grew and new players got used to each other, the passing and pace of the game increased with some incisive play from back to front. Jamie Cameron (Old Carthusians) and Stephen Shepherd (Old Chigwellians) were particularly impressive from the start with intelligent use of the ball. Spurned chances meant that the breakthrough took longer to come than it should have. However, Satch Patel (Old Etonians) opened his account with a calmly taken tap-in after 15 minutes. The second followed quickly as some more good play down the AL's left flank led to Compton being upended in the box: Cameron stepped up to drill the resulting penalty low into the bottom right. Number three was a gift - again the AL exploited some clear weaknesses in the FA's right flank - and an innocuous cross was inexplicably lashed into his own net by a red-faced FA defender. Compton was again involved at the end of a flowing AL move, a shift of the ball onto the right foot and a low drive sent the AL into half time with a well deserved 4-0 lead.

The FA picked up its performance early in the second period and started to put the AL defence under some pressure. However, the back five dealt with most situations relatively comfortably and Butcher was rarely called upon. The AL turned the work rate up again and, with some more quick football, opened up a procession of chances. James Badgett (Old King's Wimbledon), on as a substitute, was presented with another tap-in at the back post to take the lead to five. Richard Klein (Old Chigwellians), another substitute, slid in to steer a low right wing cross into the top corner for six, and Patrick Buck (Old Carthusians) became the fourth debutant to score, as he latched onto a miscued clearance and punished the mistake with a strike through the FA's demoralised goalkeeper. To be fair to the FA the players kept going and produced some chances late on. Their effort was rewarded with a late headed consolation goal following a fine right wing cross.

President: *Martin Samuel (Old Westminster)*

c/o Hon. Secretary, Simon Hunt (*Old Aldenhamians*)
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Overall, a good performance from the AL who began to gel well, despite having so many debutants. The defence was resolute and happy to build attacks with calm and accurate passing, David Costello (Old Chigwellians) and Cameron excellent on debut with assurance from keeper Butcher and Griston and Bailey who rarely looked troubled. The midfield worked hard and kept possession well with a standout performance from Shepherd, some driving play from both Baker and, later on, Klein, combined with lively wing play from Fred Sassoon (Old Etonians), Buck and Badgett. Both front players would have been happy to get on the score sheet with strong and sensible play from Compton and a tricky, quick display from Patel.

Man of the Match – Jamie Cameron (Old Carthusians), a comprehensive display of full-back play both defensively and in attack.

Scorers: Patel, Cameron (pen), OG, Compton, Badgett, Klein, Buck

Squad (4-4-2):

James Butcher (Lancing Old Boys)

Richard Griston (Old Carthusians), Jamie Cameron (Old Carthusians), Dave Costello (Old Chigwellians), Matt Bailey (Captain) (Old Carthusians)

Stephen Shephard (Old Chigwellians), Quentin Baker (Old Harrovians), Fred Sassoon (Old Etonians), Patrick Buck (Old Carthusians)

Satch Patel (Old Etonians), Oliver Compton (Old Chigwellians).

Subs: James Badgett (King's Wimbledon Old Boys), Rich Klein (Old Chigwellians)