



# THE ARTHURIAN LEAGUE

(AFFILIATED TO THE AMATEUR FOOTBALL ALLIANCE)

[WWW.ARTHURIANLEAGUE.COM](http://WWW.ARTHURIANLEAGUE.COM)

ESTABLISHED 1961

## Representative Team Match Report

### Amateur Football Combination 4 - 4 Arthurian League

**Played at Hanwell Town F.C., Reynolds Field, Perivale, Middx UB6 8TL  
on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2011, k.o. 7:30pm**

Having fought for a fortunate draw against the SAL a few weeks earlier, the AL XI were keen to show that they are on par with these perceived-to-be stronger representative teams of other leagues in the Amateur Football Alliance.

A good squad was confirmed for the game and a decent Hanwell Town pitch meant that it should be an entertaining game. It didn't disappoint.

The AFC, full of attacking pace and power, had the better of the early exchanges, but were limited to half chances rather than anything clear cut. James Butcher (Lancing Old Boys) as ever was on hand to mop these up relatively comfortably. The opening goal was a touch against the run of play, but was a beautifully constructed goal. Neat interplay in the middle of the pitch allowed Patrick Buck (Old Carthusians) time to find a slide rule pass through to the advancing Mike Tilles (King's Wimbledon Old Boys) who lifted a delicate finish over the AFC keeper (1-0). The lead was short lived (1 minute) as the AFC responded with strong play down the right: a well dug out cross to the back post and a looped header back across goal proved too much for the AL defence.

Half time came soon after and the feeling was that, the longer the game went on, the more the AL would come into it as the AFC were showing signs of frustration.

The AL began the second half with gusto and went ahead after a clipped ball from Anthony Beddows (Old Carthusians) at left back into the box was brought down by Jonny Corbett (King's Wimbledon Old Boys) - who had moved into midfield - and volleyed home craftily (2-1).

Again the lead lasted all of a minute as the AFC attacked down the right, through their best attacking threat. The winger was too hot to handle as he drove into the box to finish low under Butcher into the corner of the net (2-2). The AFC were now in the ascendancy as they pressed for the lead and were duly rewarded when some slack marking from a free kick allowed a free header 6 yards from goal: a simple chance and the AL were behind (2-3).

With the AFC playing with freedom, it seemed like a tough ask for the AL to come back into the game, however they did so with their best goal of the game. Fred Richardson (Old Harrovians) who had impressed since coming on at right back, again showed his quality with a beautiful 30 yard ball drilled along the ground, diagonally into the box, which found Tilles who finished first time with another deft swing of the right boot (3-3).

President: *Martin Samuel (Old Westminster)*

Hon. Secretary, Henry Frost (*Old Carthusians*)  
c/o 70 Hadyn Park Road, London W12 9AG



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With the game now fairly even the AL sensed blood and grew more into the game as an attacking force. However, some over-indulgence in the middle of the park gifted the ball to the AFC forward line that moved the ball quickly, opening up a 1 on 1 which was duly taken (3-4). At this stage it

would have been easy for the AL heads to go down, but great spirit was shown as the team pulled together and went for the equaliser. Five minutes from the end a ball up to the powerful George

Wilson (Old Foresters) in the box resulted in a clumsy challenge and the award of a spot kick. Buck stepped up to slide coolly into the bottom corner to round off the evening's scoring. A 4-4 draw and a match that was highly enjoyable to watch and was played in the right spirit throughout.

In the capacity crowd of 15 was the FA's Amateur Football writer, David Barber. He was extremely complimentary about the Arthurian League and the match he witnessed, although not enough to elaborate in his weekly column:

<http://www.thefa.com/Leagues/TheBarber/NewsAndFeatures/2011/service-with-a-smile>

## **Squad:**

1. James Butcher (Lancing Old Boys)
2. Ed Poulter (Old Harrovians)
3. Anthony Beddows (Old Carthusians)
4. Jonny Corbett (King's Wimbledon Old Boys)
5. Toby Smith (Old Carthusians)
6. Patrick Buck (Old Carthusians)
7. Freddie Brunt (Old Harrovians)
8. Quentin Baker (Old Harrovians)
9. George Wilson (Old Foresters)
10. Mike Tilles (King's Wimbledon Old Boys)
11. Dave Lederman (Old Harrovians)
12. James Badgett (King's Wimbledon Old Boys)
13. Fred Richardson (Old Harrovians)

## **Scorers:**

Mike Tilles (2), Jonny Corbett, Patrick Buck (pen.)

END