



MATCH REPORTS

24th August 2019

HEADLINES

- **Ham Rec maintain 100% Record.**
- **Merley hit 10 Again**
- **Ali Garrard's 5 Star show for MCS**
- **Bridport Res get 1st win.**

"MERLEY SMASH THE ROCKIES"

MERLEY CS	10
SHAFTESBURY RES	2



After their mid-week exploits at Blandford, Merley returned to winning ways with a bang, and some, against Shaftesbury Reserves at Home. The Hosts opened the scoring in the opening minutes as a decent team move culminated in Nathan Saxby squaring for Ali Garrard to smash home, however 3 minutes later the visitors were level as a long ball was not dealt with properly by the home defence with Aaron Lane-Leney knocking past the stranded keeper. Both sides created presentable chances before Steve Gilbert rattled the Rockies crossbar following a corner, on 38 minutes the hosts were back in front as Asa Phillips headed home a Jamie Moore's cross,

with half time approaching Garrard got his 2nd and the hosts 3rd to put them firmly in control, HT 3-1. Into the 2nd half and the visitors reduced the arrears as Lewis Fisher scored, this however was as good as it got as Sports stepped up a gear and completely dominated proceeding scoring a further 7 times with a devastating display of finishing. Ali Garrard notched a further 3 so scoring 5 in total, Steve Gilbert, Nathan Saxby and a pair from Matt Groves completed the rout. This is the 2nd time that Merley CS have hit 10 this season, opposition defences, be warned !!!!

"GREEN MACHINE ROLLS ON"

SHERBORNE TOWN RES	0
HAMWORTHY REC	2

Another three points for Rec in the blazing heat at Sherborne. Given the weather conditions this was never going to be a classic - and so it turned out. But Rec took plenty of positives from the game, playing some neat football, dominating possession and keeping a clean sheet. As in the previous match, the final pass was often disappointing. Ash Boyt had his best game of the season, dominating midfield and behind many of Rec's best moves and Dave Legg continued his impressive form at the back. Josh Pratt was denied a shot at goal by a timely late intervention and Sherborne saw a cross from the right flash across the face of the Rec goal, before the visitors went in front on 9 minutes. Ash Boyt received the ball around 25 yards out and with few options decided to try his luck and his shot deceived the keeper and flew low, into the corner to give Rec the lead. It should have been two, soon after, when a neat move ended with George Webb setting up Carl Edwards, only for him to turn the ball just past the post.

Rec were on top, but too many crosses were being overhit and passes going astray. George Webb's free-kick was blasted into the wall, before a home free-kick brought a good save from Aaron Robertson, pushing the ball away for a corner, HT 0-1. The lead was doubled three minutes into the second half when the impressive Boyt instigated the move which saw Edwards' low cross from the right touched in by George Webb, to make it 0-2. John Webb's half-volley was narrowly wide and Edwards' near post header was well saved, as Rec looked to make the game safe. Sherborne were putting in a plucky performance, but rarely troubling the Rec goal and the lead was nearly increased when Dave Legg's long-range attempt was tipped onto the bar and over, by the home keeper and George Webb's neat turn and shot, inside the area, was blocked by the busy home custodian.

"BALTI TOO HOT FOR THE RANGERS"

BALTI SPORTS
WAREHAM RANGERS

4
1



Balti Sports maintained their impressive unbeaten start to the Dorset Premier League season with a 4-1 win over Wareham Rangers at Weymouth College. After the exertions of a 1-1 draw with Dorchester Sports last time out, Balti were under-par but still had too much for Rangers as Sammy Nichols headed home from point-blank range. Liam Taylor and Sean Zima then combined on the left for the move of the match, Ricky Lane coolly slotting home a through ball. Wareham pulled a goal back with a one-on-one finish just before half-time, HT 2-1. An improved second-half from Balti put the game to bed as Zima curled a free-kick home – despite Wareham still organising their wall. Zima's goal killed the contest and, after Wareham were reduced to ten men for foul and abusive language, Nichols finished the scoring with his second header from a Stef Stavrianos corner. Speaking to Echosport, boss Marco Nott said: "We didn't actually play very well, the scoreline flattered us. (Wareham) gave it their all and tired at the end. "We got a dubious third goal to kill the

game, but we were poor on the day."

Report & Photo courtesy of the; **DorsetECHO**

"GILLINGHAM'S RODRIGUES AT THE DOUBLE"

GILLINGHAM TOWN
DORCHESTER SPORTS

2
1

Gillingham claimed their second win in a row as they narrowly defeated Dorchester Sports at Woodwater Lane thanks to an Aaron Rodrigues second half brace. Gillingham started brightly but were forced to make two substitutions in the first half which affected their rhythm, allowing Sports to create the best chances of the half, however they found Scott Armstrong in fine form between the sticks as he denied them the lead, HT 0-0. Sports started the second half brighter and took a deserved lead following Jamie Quinton's effort, this goal seemed to galvanise Gillingham into action. A through ball saw Aaron Rodrigues outpace the defence and coolly take the ball round the keeper to slot home for the equaliser. An unsavoury incident then saw Buddy O'Shea sent off, however this did not deter Gillingham as they pushed forward for the winner. Some good work down the right unlocked the Sports defence again and Rodrigues was there again to place the ball into the corner of the net for the lead. Sports were unable to make their numerical advantage count in the closing stages, with Gillingham defending well and Armstrong never really troubled again in the Gillingham goal. It was a hard earned three points in baking hot conditions as Gillingham look to consolidate after a couple of early defeats.

"WESTLANDS EVENTUALLY TAME THE BULLS"

WESTLAND SPORTS	4
HOLT UNITED	2

On a nice playing surface, both teams started knocking the ball around to some effect but it was the home side who were showing more penetration and creating chances. The opening goal came for Westlands in the 10th minute and came as the result of an excellent passing move involving most of the team before Josh Payne swept the ball across for Luca Martin to sidefoot in. More chances came for the home team before, inevitably, their second goal came along. Malik Kamal played a defence splitting ball for Phil Wells to run through and slot in at the near post. Sports were looking comfortable now and could have added to their tally but just before the break an error in their defence gifted the ball to Holt's Lewis Sainval in front of goal and he duly knocked it in to put the visitor's back in the game, HT 2-1. Worse was to come for the home team when 7 minutes into the second half a Holt free kick was lofted into the box and, as the Westlands defenders hesitated thinking their keeper was coming to gather the ball, Sainval nipped in and prodded the ball into the net to restore parity. That was a bit of a shock to the home side but within 6 minutes they were back in front again. A ball over the top put Josh Payne through and he drew the visiting keeper before driving the ball into the net. Westlands kept the pressure on looking for more goals. Josh Payne should have added to the score when he smashed a shot off the post in the 73rd minute but he made no mistake 2 minutes later when he ran onto a nice through ball and smashed it into the net. Holt were hanging on now and in the last 15 minutes Westlands had several more chances but were unable to take them.

"BEES STING THE SWANS FOR 1st WIN OF THE SEASON"

SWANAGE T&H	1
BRIDPORT RES	2



Swanage suffered a 2-1 defeat to Bridport Reserves at Day's Park in The Dorset Premier League. Swans produced a great start scoring after 10 minutes, Frankie White on target from close range following a great pass from Scott Dando. Striker White had a great chance for number 2 moments later but the Bees' stopper Gold produced a good save. The visitors nearly equalised when Middleton went close with a header. Swans were rocked just before the interval when Scott Dando pulled his man back and Bridport's Josh Hunter made no mistake with the resulting penalty, HT 1-1. Swanage were quite disoriented in the second half and the visitors took

the lead on 51 minutes through Brandon Scadding fine effort. The hosts pushed for the equaliser in the last 20 minutes and teenage substitute Jamie Johnston produced some great moments with his intelligent dribbling and shooting. The home side had to play out the last 10 minutes with 10 men, when frustrated skipper Paul Best was sin binned for dissent. David Best went close with a long range shot and keeper Gold tipped over a vicious strike from Jamie Johnston, however this proved too little too late against a side who coming into this game were without a point in their previous 4 games. Not a good day at the office for the Swans who will need to up their game for the visit of Dorchester Sports in next weeks FA Vase tie.

"BLANDFORD ROYALLY DEFEAT BSP"

B-MTH SPORTS PARLEY	1
BLANDFORD UTD	6

Royals remain unbeaten and get their first win!!! Blandford had more players out than available for this fixture, but they are made of sterner stuff these days with a strong reserve set up paying dividends in the early stages of the season. It was BS Parley though who started the brightest and soon found themselves a goal up after 7 mins when

John Webb shot home from fully 25 yards. That brought the Royals to life who then equalised on 11 mins through another Steve Smith goal who slotted Cooley after the ball bounced through to him. On 20 mins the Royals scored again through Elliot Manson, a towering header from the energetic midfielder latching on to a superb Danny Roger's cross. Some good build up play from the Royals midfield ended with Brad Pike putting the outstanding right winger Jack Jones through who made no mistake from a difficult angle for his first goal of the season, HT 1-3. BS Parley just like the first half started brightly and put the visitors back four under early pressure but Blandford's make shift defence absorbed the early dominance and tried to hit the hosts on the counter attack. Blandford had their keeper Jason Fry to thank after a couple of fine saves from long range efforts. A standard Joe Wells pin point free kick found Elliot Manson who made no mistake from 6 yards out to get his second of the afternoon. Taylor Pike got his reward and Blandford's 5th after showing good strength and perseverance to beat his man and fire under the oncoming keeper. Once again, Blandford broke on the counter causing Sports all sorts of problems, this time Brad Parry fired low into the bottom corner to make it 6-1. BS Parley to their credit kept battling, but didn't cause any real problems to the Royals back line.

"CORFE CASTLED BY THE BLUES"

CORFE CASTLE	1
PORTLAND UTD RES	2

Saturday saw a glorious day of sunshine flooding over The Fortress down in Corfe. The home side welcomed Portland United Reserves who were in search of their first away win. Corfe did well to maintain possession for large parts of the first half and produced some good chances but unfortunately, they were unable to convert. The heat was playing a factor but both teams coped well. 5 minutes before the break the Portland striker caught Corfe Captain on the ball at the back, Lovell felt he had been unfairly challenged when dispossessed but the referee waved play on and Portland's Callub Tennant scored to put them one up, HT 0-1. The second half started similarly to the first with Corfe staying in possession for large parts but were not able to convert the possession into pressure or chances. Another error at the back by Corfe led to Portland getting a second goal through Lance Wilson. Late on, the hosts did manage a consolation goal through Courtney Johnstone however, it wasn't able to spark a comeback as time was up.

Dorset Premier Football League

League Table		P	W	D	L	GD	PTS
POS							
1	Hamworthy Recreation	5	5	0	0	15	15
2	Westland Sports	5	4	0	1	5	12
3	Balti Sports	5	3	2	0	10	11
4	Merley Cobham Sports	4	3	1	0	23	10
5	Shaftesbury Town Reserves	5	3	0	2	-4	9
6	Dorchester Sports	5	2	2	1	8	8
7	Blandford United	4	1	3	0	5	6
8	Holt United	5	2	0	3	0	6
9	Gillingham Town	4	2	0	2	-2	6
10	Sherborne Town Reserves	5	2	0	3	-5	6
11	Sturminster Newton United	4	2	0	2	-6	6
12	Portland United Reserves	5	2	0	3	-9	6
13	Swanage Town & Herston	5	1	1	3	-6	4
14	Corfe Castle	5	1	1	3	-9	4
15	Bournemouth Sports (Parley)	5	1	0	4	-7	3
16	Bridport Reserves	5	1	0	4	-7	3
17	Wareham Rangers	4	0	0	4	-11	0