

big ed's bit.....

24 August 2010



Hello, good evening and welcome to Princes Park, home of The Darts.

Tonight's opponents are Bishop's Stortford, and we welcome all associated with, and supporting The Blues tonight.

Well, we are now a week or so into the new season, and we find ourselves in the bottom three. It's very, very early days yet, and you can of course, read nothing into such a stat. What we have all seen though, is the big step up in quality from The Ryman League. Pre season favourites Havant & Waterlooville, very nearly snatched an undeserved three points here on opening day, but were pegged back by an ice cool penalty by Ryno in injury time. The trip to Hampton & Richmond was

spoilt, by a very harsh red card for Paul Goodacre, as early as the eighth minute. This obviously left us with a mountain to climb, that said, we cracked just the once, to leave SW London potless. The trip to another pre season favourite Farnborough on Saturday, saw us beaten, a little more comprehensively than the 2-1 suggested. So, its just the one point, from the nine available. However, we now have the returning Tom Champion and Charlie Sheringham to return after suspension/injury, and with a full squad to choose from, hopefully we can start to nick a couple of odd goal wins our selves, to move up the table a tad.

On Saturday we have, after nineteen long years, the return of our real local derby against 'The Fleet'. Due to planning regulations, this long awaited match has had to be made all ticket. We are expecting our highest league attendance since opening day, and although there may be some tickets still available on the day, you are advised to get yours tonight. Further details below.

EBBSFLEET ALL TICKET

Tickets available from the Club Shop tonight. This will also be open every day until Friday 27th August 2pm - 6pm. From Monday 23rd August 2010, tickets will also be available over the telephone (9am-5pm) on 01322 299991. Credit card payments will be taken for this, and your ticket will be available for pick-up on the day of the match from the Club Shop. Car parking at Princes Park stadium will be on a first come, first served basis on the day.

FASTRACK

Arriva have agreed a special match-day fare of just £1 for any single to and from Princes Park between 13:00 and 19:00 on the above match day. Arriva will be publicising this on their on-bus infotainment screens and website.

PARKING

Please note that we are expecting larger attendances at PP this season ,and the car park will be under severe pressure. Please make sure that, when you park, your vehicle is positioned between the marked white lines on the wooden bleachers. Ta.

Keep Smilin'
Tony

tony burmans diary.....

We know this is going to be a tough League, it's got some big clubs, with some good, good teams, with players who have recently come out of the Football League.

We all know it's going to be tough, but that's what we want. We're back at a level where lots of people, including myself, feel is where we belong, and we have to prove that we can play here.

If you look at the first six games in two weeks that we've got, Havant are one of the bookies favourites, then we play another three of the bookies favourites. We just want to work hard, and I want

to get the players to do the things we tell them to do. We've brought in some good players this year, from Conference South level, and hopefully we'll be ok.

I want us to be competing at the right end of the table, come the end of the season. I want us to do as well as we possibly can.

We had some tough pre season games. Pre-season is mainly to get the fitness. The real stuff starts on Saturday, and the first ten games to any new season are crucial, as it tells you a lot about the people you have signed, and the people you have kept on. You have a look at it once you've played the ten games, and hope that you've made the right decision.

I'm sure we have, because we have got some good players in.

You can have lots and lots off quality, but you have to work hard, and if you don't get people working hard, you won't survive.

We've got to get that mentality over to the players to work hard and I know their quality will come through.

Every game this season is a big game. You've got to say all the local derbies are the ones that will have big crowds, and are something to look forward to.

I'm looking forward to Saturday, which is a big step in the right direction for Dartford.

We've got to a level where we think we belong, it's been a long journey, and it will be emotional, but we've got to concentrate against one of the favourites, as they are a good side, but we have to give it a go.



Thanks for your support,

Tony

With thanks to Steve McCartney at <http://www.kentishfootball.co.uk>

from the captains table.....

Welcome to tonight's game against Bishop's Stortford. We are now a week into the new season, and if we are all honest, it has not been an ideal start. A single point from a possible nine is not great, although I think our performances, particularly in the Havant and Hampton games, deserved more. But this is a new team and a new league and I don't think it is a surprise to anyone that it may take a few games to gel and adjust.

We have shown glimpses of what we are capable of and in my opinion we could easily be sitting on six points rather than just one. It's going to be a case of cutting out some defensive mistakes and taking our chances in front of goal. We have already seen that one mistake, or one missed opportunity will cost us in this league, and we are going to have to learn our lessons quickly. But we have good players, with experience at this level of football and we will be working hard to turn things around.

On a lighter note, this is the first time I have had an opportunity to speak about the new squad.

Tony spent the summer freeing up some space in the dressing room. The absence of Flan's gut and Taity's chin has allowed us all a bit more breathing room, although Youngy has clearly taken this as an excuse to put on some extra timber.

We also seem to have signed half of Essex since last season, which would explain the lack of professionalism around the club at the moment. Goody obviously thinks a foul as the last man after five minutes is perfectly acceptable (cough cough, cost us!), Ollie has only mentioned his 250 caps for Chelmsford about 1000 times (it's a new season son, move on), and it seems Champs thinks a three game ban is a good excuse to show up late every week, with Charlie in tow. In other news, Burnsy's goal drought continues (cough cough, right back) proving that even the Ryman League can get it wrong sometimes.

But in all seriousness, there are some massive games coming up and it is going to take both players and supporters pulling in the same direction to kick-start our season. There is a long long way to go, so I hope we can all stick together and get on to winning ways. Starting with tonight.

Bradders

