

Match Report - 16/9/07 by Andy the Manager
Dartford FC 2 Maidstone Utd 4
Kent Youth League - Central Division

We made a positive start and passed the ball about brightly. We had numerous chances but got caught and went 1 nil down against the run of play. Despite further chances, we found ourselves 2 nil down at half-time, which was hard to take after having the majority of possession and chances. After the break, we took the game to Maidstone and put them under pressure all over the pitch. Following a bit of sustained pressure, Sean Heather slotted home from 12 yards and this was no more than the side deserved. A few minutes later, Tom Parkinson was pushed in the box and Danny McNeill-Nash scored the resulting penalty. We then controlled the game during which we hit the post and forced some fantastic saves from the Maidstone keeper. Danny McNeill-Nash was particularly unlucky when he hit the post. However, given the difference in age between the two sides, Maidstone started to fight back. During one Maidstone attack, we had two chances to clear the ball but all we did was return the ball to the Maidstone forward who put the ball in the net from the edge of the box. Whilst pushing forward for the equaliser we got caught on the break, albeit by a well taken goal for the Maidstone forward.

For two weeks running now, we have played against sides who are a good year to two years older than our squad and we have to learn to take our chances when we are on top because sure enough teams will batter us given their age and experience. However, I still maintain that the development of this squad is much more important than results. We are a squad of 1 2nd year under 18 and 16 1st year under 18 outfield players – lets concentrate on our football and allow nature to take its course with regard to the physical side of the game.

Team:- Bill Senington, Rob Carter, Lewis Sutherland (James Jordan), Harley Forbes, Tom Parkinson, Sean Heather (C), Danny McNeill-Nash (Ryan Palmer), Danny Crouch, Luke White, Jack Walter, Callum Nye
Subs not used:- Deren Ibrahim, Tom Eyers, Curtis Reed.

Man of the match: Callum Nye - for taking a lot of physical stuff but still putting his body on the line for the next attack.