

## Match report 18<sup>th</sup> March 2008

### Dartford FC 2 Corinthian FC 3

This is always a game that is sure to entertain as both sides do their utmost to get the ball down and play decent football. The game started very brightly and Dartford's attempts to play the ball about were met by some great Corinthian tackling. 15 minutes into the game a needless free kick was conceded on the Corinthian left and some poor defending allowed Corinthians to take the lead. Dartford played the ball about nicely at the back and pushed for an equaliser but couldn't find that elusive goal bound effort due to some poor finishing and poor decision making. To be honest Corinthian had two worthwhile attacks, the goal and a one on one which Deren did well in forcing the player wide and out of play. Half-time score 0-1.

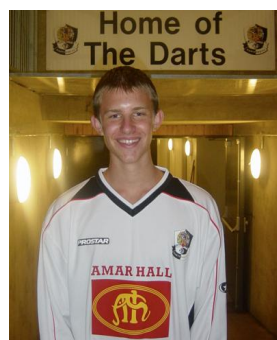
2<sup>nd</sup> half started much better for Dartford and James Jordan soon brought the home side level when volleying home from the edge of the area. Dartford were well on top at this stage and penned Corinthian back in their own half and it was during this spell that Dartford won a free kick in a central position 30 yards out from goal. Jack Walter got the ok from the ref for a quick free kick and duly put the ball in the top corner to be put Dartford in the lead 2-1. Corinthians then came back into the game and a counter attack resulted in a free kick to Corinthian on their right hand side. Dartford were a man light at this stage and failed to mark all the attacking players and a goal bound header, despite being half-stopped by Ibrahim, was poked home at the far post – Score 2-2. This was rough justice as no-one could have argued that Dartford were well on top. With 3 minutes to go, the ball was given away in the centre of midfield and what can only be described as a double rash challenge resulted in a penalty being awarded to the visitors. There could be no argument with the decision and the ref had to award the spot kick. Penalty was scored and despite some further Dartford pressure in the dying minutes, the equaliser couldn't be found and the final score was 2-3 to Corinthian.

Hat's off to Corinthian and their 'never say die attitude' but you have to ask yourself if without the needless free kicks could Dartford have gained something from the game. You don't always get what you deserve in football, but you can always make it more difficult for your opponents – a lesson that we have learnt against the same opponents twice this season.

**Team:** Ibrahim, Evers, Sutherland, Forbes (Wanless 65), Issuree, Heather (Nye 85), Keenleyside (Heffernan 70), Crouch, Jordan, Walter, White

**Subs:** Baiden, Nash

**Goals:** Jordan, Walter



**MOTM:** Jack Walter – Great skill and trickery in a closely contested game.