



BSPL NEWS

Issue 7 - April - 2002/2003 Season

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Chairman's Corner

Firstly, I would like to apologise for being unable to attend the meeting on 7 April, 2003, however this is due to business commitments.

As we are drawing to a close for the season, it is still not too late to register for next season if you are looking to put in a new team for next term. Just give me a bell and I will let you know what to do. On another note, for those teams fortunate enough to win trophies this year, you can look forward to excellent quality in the trophies that we have purchased at a total cost of £1250. Once again I believe that we have done the League Justice in the quality. I hope you agree,
Yours in sport -

Gabe Derlin

SHIELD FINAL DECIDED

Rushlight Celtic draw first blood in tight encounter

The BSPL Shield Final between St. Matts and Rushlight Celtic was eventually played at Allen Park on the 9th March, 2003.

St. Matts started this Shield Final quicker, when after only four minutes, a good cross from the right could not be converted by the on rushing forwards. In fact it seemed to take the first twenty minutes for both teams to settle, but when they did, it was Rushlight who gained the upper hand.

On twenty one minutes, the ball broke to man of the match, Michael Collins and from all of thirty yards out, he spotted the St. Matts keeper of his line. A perfectly executed chip saw the "Markets" keeper stranded, and it was first blood to Rushlight Celtic. In fact on twenty nine minutes they almost made it two when Fra Murphy beat the offside trap on the left wing and sent an early low cross into the St.Matts box, but Neil Quinn failed
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VIEW FROM THE MIDDLE

As we come to the end of another season. The League titles are very close, giving us some very interesting games to finish off with. This will be great as long as all the players and man-



agers get off the referees back. This season has been especially bad for the abuse we have taken, both on the pitch and on the way to the changing rooms. This has to stop as many contd. p.3

EDITORS COLUMN

YOU HAVE BEEN WARNED

With the First and Second Division League Titles still being disputed as well as promotion and relegation, I feel that it is incumbent upon ourselves in the Committee to remind all clubs that should any team reach 60 disciplinary points they will **automatically** lose 2 league points.

Upon reaching 65, a further League point would be deducted, with one point being lost every five disciplinary points received after that.

A look at the fair play League would see that it would not be impossible for teams to miss out on titles or promotion or be relegated should they "Lose the Plot" in their remaining matches.



Paddy Collins and a young supporter with the BSPL Shield

FAIR PLAY TABLE

Standings up to and including 2 March, 2003

TEAM	No. of Matches	Additional Disciplinary Points	Total Points from Yellow Cards (2 Pts per Card)	Total Points from Red Cards (4 Pts per Card)	Total Points	Average Points per Match
LINENHALL	23		12	4	16	0.696
GLENCOLIN SWIFTS	18		18	0	18	1.000
FORT	23	5	26	0	31	1.348
MONAGH STAR	21		26	4	30	1.429
KNOCK	22		24	8	32	1.455
DUB	22		30	4	34	1.545
S.A. RAMBLERS	19	5	14	12	31	1.632
BOCA SENIORS	23		40	4	44	1.913
TURFLODGE STAR	24		36	12	48	2.000
ST. JAMES	20		20	20	40	2.000
ST. MATTS	23		32	16	48	2.087
ADELAIDE	24		40	12	52	2.167
DEANBY SWIFTS	23		46	12	58	2.522
ST. MICHAELS	23		42	16	58	2.522
BROOKVILLA	25	15	42	8	65	2.600
TRINITY LODGE	21	5	38	12	55	2.619
RUSHLIGHT CELTIC	18		38	12	50	2.778

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View From the Middle (From page 1)

teams are going to find themselves in very serious trouble with players receiving long suspensions.

I have been observing games recently and what I see and hear from the line is stupid and uncalled for. The referee gives what he can see and not what goes on beside his back. This is often the cause for all the abuse.

What are we to do. If we get linesmen, this will cost the teams more money and extra referees are hard to come by.

So please have a little bit more respect for the man in the middle and save yourselves some hassle.

Con Fox

PLAYER OF THE MONTH

As there were numerous players all with one nomination and all having a clear disciplinary record, the Player of the Month for March will be carried forward to the end of the season. The lucky winner will pick up his £20 prize at the next meeting.

SHIELD FINAL PRESENTATION PHOTOS



Winning Manager Joe Graham and Patrick Collins with the Shield Trophy



Michael Collins of Rushlight Celtic with the Man of the Match award

HOW REFRESHING

And now for the good news. Whilst refereeing a Deanby versus Boca Seniors second division match at Ormeau on 9 March, 2003, I saw from the side of my eye what appeared to be Boca seniors Francis Ward kicking out at Deanby's Jim Campbell after the ball had gone. I stopped play and was about to caution Fra when Jim spoke up and said that he hadn't kicked out at him. Fra wasn't cautioned as a result of Jim being so honest and the game continued. So it appears that there is some sportsmanship alive and well in today's competitive BSPL League.

CURRENT SUSPENDED PLAYERS

It is the Committee's decision to publish in the newsletter, details of all players suspended by the Committee for serious breaches of the Laws of the game, as well as weekly suspensions incurred during the month.

As managers, ensure that you do not fall foul of the rules by playing suspended players, and if a manager spots someone whom he believes to be suspended, make sure that he approached the referee of the match, or a Committee member or assessor as soon as possible and do not leave it until after the match or the next league meeting.

Suspended Players From 9/3/03

Conor Kane (Rushlight Celtic) - 4 matches from 16/3/03

Anto Mc Laughlin (St. Matts) - 2 matches from 16/3/03

Joe McAlea (St. Matts) - 2 matches from 16/3/03

Mark Spence (SA Ramblers) - 4 matches from 16/3/03

John Paul Morgan (Deanby) - 4 matches from 30/3/03

Chris Watson (Brookvilla) - Pending Committee Decision

Thomas Doherty (St. Michaels) - Pending Committee Decision

Joe Rainey (St. Michaels) - 2 matches from 30/3/03

Fra Cunningham (St. Matts) - 1 matches from 13/4/03

Anto Lagan (St. Matts) - 2 matches from 13/4/03

Shield Report**(Contd From Page 1)**

to convert.

Rushlight kept up the pressure and on thirty nine minutes, Thomas Duffy was forced into a headed goal line clearance from a good shot resulting from a Rushlight corner. Anto Moore was then put through one on one with Ryan Lavery, the St. Matts keeper, but the Markets goalminder saved well. Joe Mc Alea of St. Matts was then cautioned in the last minute of the half for a crude challenge on Rushlight's Conor Kane.

Half Time**St. Matts 0 Rushlight Celtic 1**

The second half saw Rushlight maintain their dominance when after a poor defensive clearance, Sean Fox blazed a good chance high and wide.

However it was soon to be Rushlight's turn to come under the cosh. With two thirds of the match gone, and St. Matts starting to exert some pressure, Conor Kane decided to contest the referees decision regarding an infringement, but unfortunately his choice of words only got him a red card. His continued abuse after receiving his marching orders will surely land him and Rushlight in trouble with the League Committee.

With eighteen minutes of the second half gone, and things hotting up, Rushlight's Neil Quinn saw himself

get a yellow card for a crude two footed challenge.

A minute later, St. Matts were on the offensive and Rushlight keeper, Gerard Carson had to be quick of the line to make a smart save at the feet of Tony Catney. A final fractious ten minutes saw two St. Matts players being red carded. Anto Mc Laughlin for Foul and Abusive Language and Joe Mc Alea for a second cautionable offence. In the dying minutes, Rushlight Celtic grabbed a second goal to send them home victorious as the BSPL Shield Winners for 2002/2003.

Full Time**St. Matts 0 Rushlight Celtic 2****League Tables up to and including 6 April, 2003**

D I V I S I O N 1						
		Pld.	Won	Drawn	Lost	Points
Rushlight Celtic F.C.		11	10	0	1	30
St. Matts F.C.		11	9	2	0	29
Monagh Star F.C.		11	6	2	3	20
St. James F.C.		12	6	0	6	18
Trinity Lodge F.C.		12	4	0	8	12
S.A. Ramblers F.C.		11	2	2	7	8
Glencolin Swifts F.C.		12	0	2	10	2
D I V I S I O N 2						
		Pld.	Won	Drawn	Lost	Points
Deanby Swifts F.C.		17	13	2	2	41
Turflodge Star F.C.		16	12	3	1	39
Adelaide F.C.		17	8	4	5	28
Linenhall Athletic F.C.		16	8	3	5	27
St. Michaels F.C.		16	7	3	6	24
Knock F.C.		16	6	4	6	22
Boca Seniors F.C.		16	4	5	7	17
Dub F.C.		16	3	3	10	12
Brookvilla F.C.		17	4	0	13	9
Fort F.C.		17	1	1	15	4
Brookvilla - 3 points deducted - excessive disciplinary points						