



# BSPL NEWS

Issue 6 - March - 2003 / 2004 Season

## Inside This Issue

Headline	Page 1
Chairmans Corner	Page 1+3
Editors Col.	Page 1
Player of the Month	Page 1
Fair Play Lge.	Page 2
A View From The Middle	Page 3
BSPL Shield Arrangements	Page 3
League Tables	Page 4

## Chairman's Corner

It has been a quiet month for the BSPL, with First Division Fixtures being spread out to allow the competition to run longer, and the new First Division Cup taking precedence. However we are getting ready for our next Major Final next month with preparations for the "Reggie Quinn Perpetual Shield" well under way.

Things have been quiet on the disciplinary front as well with only 8 cautions and one sending off over the last four weeks. Well done to all the teams, and hopefully we are learning the way that football in the

**Cont. Page 3 Col. 1**

# FINAL TIME

## First Final of the Season Next Sunday

**Next Sunday, 7th March, sees the BSPL's first major final of the season take place when the inaugural Reggie Quinn Perpetual Shield will be contested between Rushlight and Dub FC**

It should be an interesting affair with the experienced current Shield holders Rushlight FC favourites to win against new boys Dub FC.

However I do not think that it will be one way traffic. Dub, who have improved greatly this season with a new more professional set up, are currently vying for the second Division League Title with Boca Seniors, and are playing good football

## PLAYER OF THE MONTH

The Player of the Month covering January and February is Dee O' Kane from St. Matthews with two awards and no disciplinary record.

in a strong physical manner. This should make it a good match against a Rushlight team who pass the ball about and can, on their day, play as attractive a style of football as anyone in the League. In my opinion there are two factors which may determine the outcome.

First of all can Dub cope with the big Allen Park pitch. As part of their build up to the final, they have already been up to have a look at the venue and are aware of its dimensions. Fitness may play a big part in the outcome.

Finally, if Rushlight decide to play their Irish League "Big Guns" in the form of Mickey Collins and Fra Murphy, they could have a massive bearing on who wins. No matter what, it promises to be the most interesting final in recent years and one which everyone must look forward to.

## EDITORS COLUMN

First of all can I say thank you to all those who enquired after my well being following me turning up at Ormeau on crutches the Sunday before last.

Despite rumours of a "Batman Suit" being involved or punishment for anti social behaviour, it was merely a loss of footing coming out of my house (In a sober state). Hopefully I will be back to full fitness in a couple of weeks ready for the run in to the end of the season. I now see how players that are injured make poor spectators and can't wait to get the boots back on. With the Shield Final next week and having already missed the two weeks previous, I am itching to get back in the middle again. The only thing that cheered me up was getting some "Meaty" fixtures to referee when the Chairman handed them to me yesterday.

My aim for the rest of the season is to get fit, enjoy the Shield Final, and get as many matches under my belt prior to the big one. At last I am getting to referee the Cup Final and I hope that it will be as good a final as this year's Shield Final promises to be. Good Luck to both teams

## FAIR PLAY TABLE

**Standings up to and including 29th February, 2004**

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
<b>COLLINGWOOD SKUNKS FC</b>	21		8		8	0.381
<b>FORT FC</b>	19		12		12	0.632
<b>DUB FC</b>	21		12	4	16	0.762
<b>BOCA SENIORS FC</b>	19		12	4	16	0.842
<b>KNOCK FC</b>	20		14	4	18	0.900
<b>TURFLODGE STAR FC</b>	19		12	8	20	1.053
<b>C.F.A.N.I. FC</b>	20		16	8	24	1.200
<b>APOLLO ATHLETIC FC</b>	20		22	8	30	1.500
<b>BROOKVILLA FC</b>	20		28	4	32	1.600
<b>GLENCOLIN SWIFTS FC</b>	19	5	22	8	35	1.842
<b>S.A. RAMBLERS FC</b>	18		26	8	34	1.889
<b>TRINITY LODGE FC</b>	21		32	8	40	1.905
<b>ST. MATTHEWS FC</b>	22		22	20	42	1.909
<b>ST. MICHAELS FC</b>	17	15	18	4	37	2.176
<b>ADELAIDE FC</b>	21	5	34	8	47	2.238
<b>MONA STAR FC</b>	17	5	30	4	39	2.294
<b>RUSHLIGHT FC</b>	19		32	12	44	2.316

## Continued From page 1

football in the BSPL should be played.

I would also remind anyone who is interested in registering a team for next season that they should be submitting an initial letter of application to me at this time.

Just a note for our Disciplinary Coordinator, Colin Johnston that I think he should be taking it one step at a time. He knows what I mean.

Yours in Sport -

*Gabe Devlin*

## SHIELD FINAL ARRANGEMENTS

The BSPL Shield Final takes place this Sunday, 7th March, 2004 at Allen Park, home of Chimney Corner FC.

Rushlight FC and Dub FC have already received their instructions from the League Committee, but if anyone else is going to the game they should be aware of the following: -

**The Ground is open from 1.00pm for a 2.00pm kick off.**

Entry must be made by the front clubhouse door. The side Players gate will be locked for security reasons.

**No Alcohol may be taken onto the premises or trackside. There are bar facilities in the clubhouse for all supporters.**

All teams / supporters must respect the property of Chimney corner FC as any damage caused will be liable to the Belfast Sunday Premier League.

## A VIEW FROM THE MIDDLE

Although commented on briefly by the Chairman elsewhere in this issue, I feel I must mention positively the excellent disciplinary records of all the teams in the BSPL over the past few weeks. With only 8 cautions and one sending off over this period, it bodes well for the future of the League and demonstrates that teams and players can play the game in a fair and sportsmanlike fashion while still remaining competitive. On a more personal note and still staying with the mantle of fair play, can I through the column, thank the teams from S.A. Ramblers, Apollo Athletic and Mohammed Shakir from CFANI for their understanding and assistance when I was in-



jured after being struck in the chest with the ball. Although much maligned at times, I believe referees are appreciated and when one needs help, it will be readily given by teams and Managers. Again may I say Thank you. One final issue that has raised its head is the new interpretation of the offside rule with phases of play etc. Until some of our registered referees get an update or guidance we in the BSPL will continue as usual. I understand the matter will be discussed at next week's Referees Association meeting and if we are to change our interpretation of the laws, teams will be informed.

Yours in Sport

*Con Fox*

## IN THE BEST OF COMPANY

Following his recent "Promotion" to the ranks of refereeing, Paul Devine and Disciplinary Coordinator Colin Johnston attended a recent Referees Association meeting in the CIYMS Club on Circular Road Belfast. Always eager to extend their knowledge of the Laws of the Game, the fact that FIFA Referee and England's representative at Euro 2004, Mike Riley was the guest speaker was too good an offer to miss. An interesting and informative presentation followed by a question and answer session proved to be a great hit with all those that attended.

The obligatory photograph was taken with both BSPL representatives "Flying the Flag" by wearing their Sunday League Polo Shirts.



## LEAGUE TABLES

### Standings up to and including 29th February, 2004

DIVISION 1					
	Pld.	Won	Drawn	Lost	Points
ST. MATTHEWS FC	10	8	1	1	25
RUSHLIGHT FC	10	6	2	2	20
TURFLODGE STAR FC	10	4	2	4	14
TRINITY LODGE FC	10	4	2	4	14
MONA STAR FC	10	3	3	4	12
S.A. RAMBLERS FC	9	2	1	6	7
ST. MICHAELS FC	11	2	1	8	7

DIVISION 2					
	Pld.	Won	Drawn	Lost	Points
DUB FC	16	12	2	2	38
BOCA SENIORS FC	15	11	4	0	37
BROOKVILLA FC	17	8	5	4	29
APOLLO ATHLETIC FC	15	7	3	5	22
ADELAIDE FC	15	6	4	5	22
KNOCK FC	15	6	2	7	20
FORT FC	15	5	2	8	17
GLENCOLIN SWIFTS FC	14	4	3	7	15
C.F.A.N.I. FC	15	2	0	13	6
COLLINGWOOD SKUNKS FC	15	0	3	12	3

Apollo FC deducted 2 points for fielding ineligible player

The BSPL Newsletter is produced courtesy of : -  
**The Belfast Sunday Premier League (Estd. 1994)**

Any Correspondence should be sent to: -

Mr. Colin Johnston

The Editor, BSPL Newsletter

120 Beechgrove Avenue, Belfast. BT6 0NF

Tel. 02890 228406 - Mobile 07793 074825

E Mail - [colin.johnston9@ntlworld.com](mailto:colin.johnston9@ntlworld.com)