

National League Division 3 – Weekend 1 – Sheffield 8th/9th September 2007

Team:

1. **Simon Metcalfe**
2. **Neil Comerford**
3. **Allan Shepherd**
4. **Dave Baxter**
5. **Davie Stewart**
6. **Elliot Robertson**
7. **Callum McGregor**
8. **Ryan Laird**
- 9.
10. **Stewart Carlile**
11. **Mark Speed**
- 12.
13. **Calum Fraser**

Game 1:	Caledonia	8	South Derbyshire	11
Per 1:		1		2
Per 2:		2		4 (3 – 6)
Per 3:		3		4 (6 – 10)
Per 4:		2		1 (8 – 11)

Goal scorers		Exclusions		Extra man situations	
D Baxter	3	C McGregor	2	Gained: 4 + 1 pen	Conceded: 5
C Fraser	3	D Baxter	1	Scored: 2 miss pen 50 %	Goals lost: 2 60 %
C McGregor	1	C Fraser	1		
M Speed	1	D Stewart	1		

Comment:

In 3 seasons this is the first time we have lost an opening day fixture: We did not play collectively well yet we did miss 3 or 4 100% chances which could have won us the game. Throughout the game we gave possession away too quickly and were unable to exert sustained attacking pressure on South Derbyshire. We did employ a double centre forward system to counteract their drop defence which was effective in part but a lack of goal threat from the perimeter meant the pit players were often greatly pressured.

Positively from the middle of the 3rd period we won 4-1 but by that time we were 4-10 down.

Otter lost the first game of the league in Div 2 and then went on to win it. If we are to do the same an increase in individual and collective preparation is required.

Game 2:	Caledonia	15	Invicta Marlins	12
Per 1:		6		3
Per 2:		3		2 (9 – 5)
Per 3:		3		4 (12 – 9)
Per 4:		3		3 (15 – 9)

Goal scorers		Exclusions		Extra man situations	
D Baxter	1	C McGregor	2	Gained: 11 + 1 pen	Conceded: 12 + 2 pen
C Fraser	4	C Fraser	3	Scored: 5 + 1 pen 45%	Goals lost: 7 + 2 pen 42 %
C McGregor	4	D Stewart	2		
M Speed	2	M Speed	2		
R Laird	3	A Shepherd	2		
S Carlile	1	S Carlile	1		
		R Laird	1		
		N Comerford	1		

Comment:

This was a hard fought but commendable win. After losing the first goal, a strong press defence and a patient but committed attack enabled us to establish a 6-3 lead at the end of the first period. Positively we gained 5 extra man situations in this 1st period and although we missed two we did score the first three to give us a lead that we never relinquished. During the game possession retention was better and when Invicta began to exert pressure in period 3 and 4 they never got closer than 2 goals and we always managed to get 3 in front at 11-8, 12-9,13-10, 14 -11. In this game we had a more balanced attack more often with 6 players getting on the scoresheet which was more of a spread than game 1. There is still much room for improvement with player conditioning an important area to address but this was an important win bearing in mind our first result and Invicta beating Warley in their first game

Running totals:

Player	Games played	Goals scored	Exclusions
Simon Metcalfe	2		
David Baxter	2	4	1
Alan Shepherd	2		2
Neil Comerford	2		1
Davie Stewart	2		3
Callum McGregor	2	5	4
Elliot Robertson	2		
Ryan Laird	2	3	1
Stewart Carlile	2	1	1
Mark Speed	2	3	2
Calum Fraser	2	7	4