



MacWhirter Welsh League Division 1

Ynys Park

30/08/08



TON PENTRE

5

Morgan (21), Jones (31, 41), Edwards (34), Toghill (52)

CWMBRÂN TOWN

3

Carless (16, 63) Fowler (72)

The Crows suffered their third consecutive defeat in a mistake-littered, but highly entertaining match. After taking the lead, then amazingly being 4-1 down at half time, the Crows fought back in the second half to produce an unlikely 5-3 score line in favour of the hosts.

The Bulldogs came out of the blocks all guns blazing and put the Crows under serious pressure from the off. In fact they could have been 1-0 up within the first minute due to indecision at the back. Fortunately only a corner was conceded.

Despite being under the cosh, just after the quarter-hour mark, the Crow took the lead completely against the run of play - a long ball forward forcing a corner. Ricky Hodge's corner kick was flicked on and Joey Carless collected the ball just inside the area before firing home in style.

The lead didn't last long though. After failing to take advantage from a number of previous corner kicks, one finally bore fruit, Ryan Morgan rising well to head firmly into the corner of the net.

This breakthrough for Ton signalled a goal rush. Alyn Jones latched onto a long throw into the box, and although Wilkinson saved the initial shot, Jones followed up to head into the unguarded net.

Three minutes later Ton went further ahead. Steve Edwards pinched the ball off Ricky Hodge and made a bee-line for the Cwmbrân goal before holding his nerve to fire passed Wilkinson in style.

The final goal of the half was probably the best as Alyn Jones bagged his second goal after ghosting through the Crows defence before blasting home from close range.

There was no let up for the Crows as Ton made it 5-1 minutes into the second half. The Ton attack scythed through the Crows defence down the left before a cross left Lloyd Toghill the simple task of tapping home from close range.

A change of goalkeeper just before the hour mark coincided with a glut of scoring opportunities for the Crows. First, Tidiany Kone fired just over, and then Joey Carless pulled a goal back. A good piece of approach play allowed Carless to make some space for himself just inside the box before firing home coolly.

Minutes later Rob Fowler went close, firing just wide after Ton keeper Blackburn had dropped a cross. Fowler made up for that miss eight minutes later after latching onto a pin-point Ricky Hodge cross to slot home via a deflection.

The Crows were as dominant in the closing stages of the second half as Ton were in the opening period of the first. Substitute Marlon Kabi had a glorious chance to reduce the deficit further, but he failed to beat the sharp Blackburn after being put clean through by Hodge.

As normal time ran out, Ricky Hodge went close to making it 5-4, but his powerful shot smacked the crossbar. Fair play to the Crows, they showed a lot of character in the second half in difficult circumstances, and will surely get better and better as the season progresses.

Line-up: Wilkinson, Hodge, Dominic Broad, Carro, Hutcheon, Arthur, McKenzie, Kone, Fowler, Carless, L.Waite. **Subs:** Kabi, A.Waite, Jefferies, Guei.