

## **Amateur Football Combination Report – 5<sup>th</sup> April 2008**

In a battle of the top two sides in the Premier Division, the opening exchanges were fairly even, but James Concannon opened the scoring for Albanian with the first clear chance, pouncing quickest on a long ball to tuck home. Just before halftime Albanian extended their lead, Salvatore Ciniotti broke down the right wing and crossed to the back post where Chris Glynn cut it back for Kieran Prendergast to drive home from the middle of the area. Albanian sat back at the start of the second half, and with twenty minutes to go, Sam Bowen broke through the middle and was upended by Stuart Henry in the Albanian goal, Gary Bryson tucking home the penalty to reduce the arrears. The last twenty minutes saw Beals pressing for the equaliser, and with five minutes to go Henry redeemed himself with a superb double save from Bryson and Carl Taylor. Albanian held out for the 2-1 win and a seven point lead at the top of the Premier Division, which they can only lose through a spectacular collapse.

Old Aloysians beat HAC 5-1, taking the early lead through a Sean O'Donnell header, and quickly adding a second as Dave Laird fired home from the edge of the box. Shortly before half-time Laird adding his second, putting the game out of reach. Aloysians continued to dominate, and early in the second half struck twice more, through Terry O'Neill, who rounded the keeper for his first, and fired home smartly for the second. With five minutes to go HAC ruined the clean sheet as Stewart Holt grabbed a consolation.

Old Meadonians cruised to a 6-1 win against Hale End. The early exchanges were tight, with Hale End knocking the ball around nicely, but Meads opened the scoring through an Ed Glover penalty following an obvious handball. Into the second half and Meads took control quickly, Colin Hawkins scoring twice, the second a superb lob from twenty five yards out, Kevin Quinn lashing home from the edge of the box and Leon Smith added the fifth. Meads completed their scoring as Dwayne Rhone crossed for Glover to head home his second, and Hale End were left to grab a consolation as Ally McCombe headed home under pressure.

UCL Academicals faced Old Hamptonians with both sides needing a win to all but ensure safety. Hamptonians opened well, Ian Gascoigne seeing Mark Dawson save well with his feet, and Hamps being denied a penalty when Ian Yates went down under Dave Coates challenge. Accies had their own chances, and half an hour in Dave Jenkin opened the scoring as he burst through to tuck the ball under the advancing James Holdsworth. Early in the second half, Jenkin added his second, cutting in from the right hand side and lashing the ball into the top corner. Despite being 2-0 up, manager Dan Chantler threw on more strikers, and Hamptonians fought back into the game, with Accies looking increasingly vulnerable. With eight minutes to go, Richard Blake broke through, and Mark Dawson made a good low reaction save, but Matt Harrison reacted quickest to the rebound tuck home. Hamps had their tails up, and Accies now hit the panic button, and two minutes later Ian Yates clipped in a free kick from the left hand side, and Andy Gibbon had a free header to power home from eight yards to clinch a 2-2 draw and a point.