

Amateur Football Combination Report – 4th April 2009

Bealonians continued their march towards the title and pressed Old Hamptonians from the kickoff, opening the lead as Chris Brown beat his man and won a penalty, which Simon Paul smashed home. Before half-time, from a defensive corner, Paul fed Brown who ran half the length of the pitch to finish clinically. The second half saw Beals continue to have the upper hand, John Butler rarely threatened, and Beals made it three as Ian Sawyer crossed, Paul pouncing on the loose ball to fire home. Hamps grabbed a late consolation, Chris Heritage capitalising on Paul foot's mistake, but Beals were comfortable 3-1 winners, leaving them needing one win from their last four games to take the title.

Hosting Old Aloysians, UCL Academicals started slowly, and on fifteen minutes almost fell behind as Chris Thomas fired over, but then went close themselves as Kieron Jennings put Sam Prentki through who couldn't convert. Into the second half, Jennings went close, and then Daniel O'Donohue broke through only to be foiled by a last ditch tackle by Innis Pirrie. With twenty minutes to go, Thomas broke into the area and was pulled down by Prentki, but Nick Jones penalty was well saved by Rupert Neal low to his right. With five minutes to go, Adam Stainsby rode a challenge and fired home low to the left hand corner from twenty yards to give Accies a 1-0 shock win, keeping their mathematical chances of avoiding the drop alive.

HAC and Old Meadonians fought out a thriller in Mottingham. Meads opened the scoring having weathered an early storm, Peter Eguae beating Steve Watson and lashing home, and two minutes later made it two as Michael Richards pounced on Leon Smith's rebound. Just before the half HAC pulled one back, Stuart Holt whipping a 25 yard free kick into the bottom corner.

Tails up, HAC equalised just after the resumption as Colin Gardner headed a corner across goal for Karl Chapple to nod home. Meads fought back, Smith adding his second from the edge of the area, and with twenty minutes left, Richards set up Jack Costello to make it 4-2 and give Meads the points.

In a game that typified mid-table mediocrity Old Salvatorians and Albanian fought out a 0-0 draw on a hard, bouncy pitch in windy conditions. The best chance of the game fell to Albanian in the first half, Sean Power setting up Richie Cussell who fired over, in a game otherwise devoid of goalmouth action.