

SECOND LEAGUE.

LUTON v. GRIMSBY.

A WELCOME VICTORY.

Having defeated the Arsenal at Grimsby the previous week, the Fishermen came to Luton on Saturday with fair confidence. They stopped over-night at Peterborough, and found a gusty afternoon awaiting them in Bedfordshire. The locals were inspired by their success at Blackpool, and had also the recollection of Grimsby's defeat at Luton on their last visit by 6-0. About 2,000 spectators were present and Mr. J. E. Carpenter, of Leicester, refereed with the following teams:—

Luton: Perkins; Dow and Williams; C. Ford, Sharp, and Crump; Durrant, McInnes, Kemplay, Hewitt and Ekins.

Grimsby: Bagshaw; Mountain and Nidd; Cherry, Gray and Nemes; Jenkinson, Greenwood, Cockshutt, Ratcliffe and Griffiths.

Grimsby kicked off against the wind and Jenkinson showed up with a smart centre, which Williams headed out close on Perkins. Then after a series of throws-in owing to the rough breeze, Griffiths centred and Greenwood missed only two yards in front of the Luton goal. The first attack by the home team was initiated by Durrant, who, however, ran the ball over the goal-lines. Grimsby missed again, but a foul by C. Ford enabled Griffiths to score their first goal after only 7 minutes' play.

Luton looked like retaliating from a corner, but Durrant placed behind. The local right-winger centred beautifully and Kemplay headed hard into goal, where Bagshaw smartly fisted the ball away. A foul by Mountain laid out Hewitt rather badly, and he had to rest for some minutes. After a corner to Grimsby, Ekins made a good run, but Kemplay and McInnes both missed his centre, while Durrant's shot "cannoned" out. Bagshaw, however, had to save in quick time, with two Luton forwards on top of him. The Fishermen did some pressing, but 24 minutes from the start Luton made an unexpected spurt. Thanks to hard work by Ekins, who sent across a fine centre, the Luton forwards bore down upon Bagshaw with a dashing onslaught, and Durrant scored with a lovely oblique shot from the corner-flag. Loud cheers greeted this welcome "equaliser."

The goal seemed to put fresh spirit into Luton, who gave Bagshaw a severe test directly afterwards. Grimsby paid a stray visit to Perkins, but the old Kettering custodian kicked up the field. From this, Ekins raced away and centred right across to Durrant, who scored No. 2 with a brilliant run, only 8 minutes after the previous score, and elicited enthusiastic applause.

For a while, Luton showed a foolish inclination to slacken their efforts and Grimsby got dangerous, but the ball was put over the bar. Durrant was off the field for 5 minutes, and while he was away, Bagshaw narrowly escaped defeat. At half-time, the score was:—

LUTON...	...	...	...	2 goals
GRIMSBY	...	...	...	1 goal

On crossing over, the play improved in spirit and vigour. Two splendid shots in succession by Ekins and Crump were kept out. George ran down again but Bagshaw kicked away, while a dash by Hewitt deserved to score. Only 5 minutes had passed when Durrant gave Kemplay a good pass, and the Luton centre cleverly beat both Nidd and Bagshaw, scoring a splendid single-handed goal. This was No. 3 for the home side, and the spectators showed great enthusiasm.

The visitors had to play 10 men for the rest of the game, owing to Mountain getting injured. Good shots were made by McInnes and Sharp. Play continued fast and lively. Ekins sent in a grand shot, which missed by inches, and Hewitt then netted the ball, but was ruled offside amid loud protests. Griffiths scored an offside point for Grimsby, and at the other end Hewitt shot with terrific force, the old Gainsborough keeper just saving when prostrate on the goal-lines. Gray forced a corner for the visitors, but the flag-kick led to a smart run by Ekins, Bagshaw being kept constantly on the alert. The Grimsby custodian saved grandly from Crump.

Grimsby tried hard to get on terms, but their shooting was very inaccurate. Perkins, however, yielded a fruitless corner, and kicked out finely from Jenkinson. McInnes dribbled close in, but was too much hustled to shoot, Kemplay putting in a high shot, which Bagshaw steered over his head. Ford took the corner, but it was cleared. The Grimsby forwards were very weak in this half, and Luton easily maintained their lead to the finish:—

LUTON...	...	...	...	3 goals
GRIMSBY	...	...	...	1 goal