



UNITED LEAGUE.

LUTON RESERVES v. FINEDON.

A VICTORY FOR LUTON.

By a new rule the Southern and Midland League Clubs in the above League are allowed to put their reserve teams in the field against the Finedon and Bothewell Clubs, and in accordance with this arrangement the Luton Reserves met Finedon on the Bury Park enclosure on Saturday afternoon in beautiful weather, before a large number of spectators. The teams lined up punctually at 4 o'clock as follows:—

Luton: Farr; White and T. Hawkes; Ellingham, Dawson and Garrett; Barrett, F. Hawkes, Plummer, Deacon, and Durrant.

Finedon: Wilson; Gibson and G. Clipstone; Rixon, Robertson and Hawkes; Smith, Underwood, Dixon, M. Clipstone and Willis.

Referee: Mr. J. Hackley, Wellingborough.

Luton won the toss, and Finedon kicked off facing the sun. The Reserves were the first to get away, but hesitation among the forwards lost a good opening in the first minute. A foul on Willis by White was well saved by Farr, and the Reserves had hard lines in not scoring through Deacon, the ball lodging on top of the net. Fouls were rather frequent, both sides being to blame. Durrant missed an opening with only Wilson to beat, and a foul throw against Finedon was of no avail to Luton. The visitors forced a corner off T. Hawkes, but the ball was cleared. Wilson saved well from F. Hawkes, and although the Luton team were having all the play they could not beat Wilson, who played a magnificent game throughout. A palpable case of hands passed unnoticed by the referee, who was rather weak, especially on the off-side rule, and from a foul on Garrett by Underwood, the ball was rushed through, F. Hawkes putting the finishing touch on, thus scoring the first goal for Luton after 35 minutes' play. From the kick-off, the Reserves got away again, and Wilson had to save a fine shot from Barrett, while Garrett cleared a rush by the Finedon forwards. A tame shot by Smith was cleared by Farr, and a good run and centre by Barrett was capitalily saved by Wilson just under the bar. From now to half-time the Reserves did all the pressing, but no more scoring took place, the interval arriving with:

Luton Reserves 1, Finedon 0.

On the restart, the Reserves at once got away, and Plummer tried hard to increase Luton's lead, but he was unsuccessful. Farr gave a corner to a centre by Smith, and from the kick, Farr made a good save from Dixon. Durrant fouled Gibson, but the "free" came to nought. Luton forced a corner, but it was put behind, and from the goal-kick, the visiting forwards got away, but were stopped in fine style by T. Hawkes. The half-time wire arrived from Chatham about this time with the news that the home team were leading, and the spectators looked somewhat disappointed. Offside against Barrett spoilt a fine chance, and a tame shot by Deacon was easily cleared by Wilson. White placed a free-kick from a foul throw in the net untouched; and the game had to be stopped through Garrett getting injured, but he soon resumed. F. Hawkes skimmed the bar with a beautiful shot, and the same player had hard lines a minute later in heading over a fine centre from Durrant. Farr made a good save on the line from Dixon after Garrett had miskicked; and Farr gave a corner to Finedon, but it was put behind. From the goal-kick the Reserves got away, and Plummer with a brilliant shot, beat Wilson for the second time. The end soon came after this, and the Reserves returned victorious with the score:

Luton Reserves 2 goals, Finedon 0.