

THE ENGLISH CUP.

LOWESTOFT v. LUTON TOWN.

LUTON JUST GET HOME.

For the third year in succession the Luton team has had to visit the Eastern Counties to play off the third round of the English Cup. Two years ago Luton defeated Lowestoft by 2 goals to nil, and on Saturday after a tedious journey of some 6 hours, again succeeded in ousting the seashiders from the Cup competition, but only by the odd point, the score being 2 goals to 1 in Luton's favour.

Under the heading of "Lowestoft Beaten by Luton's Pros.," the "Eastern Daily Press" gives the following description of the game:— Favoured by delightful weather, a large crowd attended at the Lowestoft Crown Meadow on Saturday in the hope of seeing the home team preserve its unbeaten certificate, and establish a new record by being the first East Anglian team to lower the colours of the Southern League professional team from Luton. Both teams took the field several minutes before starting time, the Luton men, a fine set, being dressed in white. Expressions of regret were heard amongst the Lowestoft supporters when it was definitely announced that Timoney would not play. The Luton players did not arrive in Lowestoft till after one o'clock, but appeared little the worse for their long journey. The teams turned out as follow—

Lowestoft Town. — Spoor; Holman and Mewse; Andrews, Royal, and Sutherland; Wilkins, Baker, Gooch, Cole and Crews.

Luton: Ord; Lindsay and Sharp; Hawkes, White, and Williams; Durrant, Blessington, Brown, Tierney and Colvin.

Referee: Mr. S. R. Carr, London.

Lowestoft won the toss, and Luton started the ball in the face of a brilliant sun. After a run down by the Luton inner right, Royal kicked to Wilkins, who centred, and a corner was forced, Wilkins putting the ball behind. From goal kick the leather was got over the half-way line, and Tierney made a pretty pass, but before Colvin could obtain possession, Mewse despatched the ball to the centre and again the Lowestoft forwards forced ahead, Gooch finishing up some excellent work by a sharp shot, which went behind.

Luton were quickly at the other end, the left wing displaying fast work, and a shot from Colvin was kicked from the goal-post by Mewse. This did not spoil the attack, and the home team had an alarming time. There was great relief when White kicked the ball over the bar. The Lowestoft forwards, by clever passing, again entered the Luton territory and although a free kick was given against them, they continued to hold their own.

Again the Luton forwards got down, and Spoor saved two good shots. Subsequently the ball was kicked over. Lowestoft made another dash, Gooch being very conspicuous, but his efforts were spoilt by Lindsay. The ball kept over to the west stand, and then it was passed to Wilkins, who transferred it to the goal mouth, when Sharp got it away. Lowestoft held their own, and on several occasions baffled their opponents. Wilkins made a slight blunder when he had a good opportunity, after the ball had been given to him by Gooch. Luton by tricky play got into Lowestoft territory, but they found the defence hard to beat. Mewse was very noticeable and repeatedly kicked away.

There was now an exciting time for the Lowestoft enthusiasts. Crews and Cole ran away, and the latter player sent the ball across the goal-mouth. Wilkins returned and the leather was in the centre of half-a-dozen players, who all appeared too excited to kick. At last Lindsay just tipped it away and the leather was taken by Brown to midfield, and then Blessington sent in a long shot, which went behind. Lowestoft again got away, and for several minutes were prominent, their opponents being practically hemmed in. Unfortunately the home forwards could not get a kick at goal.

Luton next got into the other half, but their players were more scattered, and Holman, who had justified his inclusion in the team, did some smart work, and on one occasion Spoor rushed out and kicked away when a goal seemed inevitable. Two minutes afterwards Spoor saved from Colvin, who beat Mewse. If anything Luton had the slight advantage when play was stopped, owing to Williams hurting his shoulders. When play was resumed, Luton got to the uprights, and Tierney shot wide. A tussle followed, and Brown netted the ball, thirty-five minutes from the start. An appeal for offside was made, but was disregarded by the referee. Lowestoft immediately assumed the aggressive, and Cole had a grand opportunity, but just as he was shooting Ord ran out and took the ball from his feet.

Luton were again attacking when Mewse made one of his huge kicks, which proved of little advantage, as White nipped in as the ball fell in front of Gooch. Royal made up for the mishap, and from his kick Baker was enabled to trouble Ord, who kicked away. Luton were holding their own, and although several shots were sent in Spoor was not troubled. Two minutes before the whistle sounded for half-time Gooch was bowled over, and for this the referee awarded a penalty. This caused intense excitement, but just as Cole approached to take the kick all was quiet. He was closely watched, and was successful in equalising amid tremendous applause. So close was this to the interval that the players had not time to line up before the whistle sounded. Half-time:—

Lowestoft, 1 ; Luton, 1

The resting time allowed was five minutes, and upon resumption Lowestoft went away. After two futile attempts on the part of Baker and Gooch, offside was given and this allowed Luton to cross the border. Nothing of interest occurred during the next five minutes. Once in the centre play was fierce, but Mewse sent a slow pass to Crews, who in turn gave the ball to Cole. Crews received again and looked like scoring, but the shot went wide. Lowestoft forwards dashed away, but the ball was sent too far to the right, and Colvin kicked away. The Lowestoft captain stepped in and shot for a goal, the ball missing by a few inches.

At the other end Durrant sent in a cross shot which nearly hit the upright, and then went wide. Brown gave a fine exhibition, and after netting the best of several of the Lowestoft players was robbed by Mewse, and as Wilkins was running away he was apparently knocked down. It looked as if he were injured, and this fact somewhat enraged the home supporters. Fortunately, however, he was not really hurt. Luton made another invasion through the medium of Durrant, who passed to Brown, and his chances were again upset by Mewse. Hawkes finished up a good run down by sending the leather on the top of the net.

Although the play was confined to the Lowestoft territory Luton were holding their own, as had been anticipated. They now forced the ball to the Lowestoft end of the ground, and Blessington, who was well up, secured, and added the second goal for his side with a low sharp shot. Luton again pressed hard, and Spoor saved well from Durrant. A free kick was given against Mewse, and Durrant placed the ball very neatly, but Royal averted danger. Lowestoft continued to hold their own until a free kick was given against them, and then Durrant made another futile attempt to score. Lowestoft exerted themselves to the utmost to equalise, but through the efforts of the Luton backs, the ball was kept out. Result:—

LUTON 2, LOWESTOFT 1.

As a result of their visit to Lowestoft, Luton took about £18. The unfortunate necessity of having to play through the preliminary rounds has cost the club over £50. The draw for the 4th round decides that Luton must visit Watford to-morrow week, Nov. 16th. It will be a tough game, and the winners will very probably have to play Queen's Park Rangers in the final round.

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