

A RISE FOR LUTON.

TWO POINTS OUT OF NEW BROMPTON.

THE VISITORS' UNFAIR TACTICS.

On Saturday afternoon the Luton club extended a welcome to New Brompton, and both clubs had made up their minds to secure the two points at stake. The visitors had a really splendid record in the Southern League, as they stood fourth with 16 points for 14 games.

They made a glorious start, but then struck what footballers call "a bad patch," and during this period they made their exit from the English Cup, Brighton beating them on Kentish soil.

Last year the Luton team scored the only goal of the match, and made a draw at New Brompton. This year history repeated itself, so far as the match at Luton was concerned.

The teams lined up as follow:—

LUTON.

Lindsay

Turner

McEwen

F. Hawkes

White

Pritchard

Eaton R. Hawkes

Lamberton

Moody

Barnes

O

Lager

Morris

Leigh

McKee

Filton

Elliott

Watts

Bull

White

Walton

Griffiths

NEW BROMPTON.

Referee: Mr. A. J. Kipps, of London.

Luton lost the toss and had to kick against the wind. But Moody was early to the fore with a good pass to Barnes, and the latter, giving a neat return, Moody shot, but the distance was too great to be effective.

Mac cleared an attack by New Brompton, and then Barnes was given off-side. Bob Hawkes cleared an attack by the visitors, robbing the forwards very prettily.

The ball proved very lively, and there was some quick work on both sides.

The visitors were pulled up for hands, but a foul against Lamberton stopped the progress of the blues.

The ball was sent behind by a long kick by Watts, and then in another attack which the New Brompton forwards made the ball was again sent behind.

Bert Moody was putting in some good work, but he passed without looking, and the ball accordingly went a little bit astray.

The linesmen and the referee got into hot water for what the crowd regarded as bad decisions. Moody received a nice pass from Lamberton and shot into the goalkeeper's hands and Griffiths cleared.

A corner was given New Brompton, and this was well placed by Lager, and Lindsay cleared. White, the New Brompton back, put in a very despicable piece of play. Moody followed the ball, and Walton miskicked. White then kicked at the ball and missed, and Moody had a splendid chance, the ball going towards goal from the back's foot. White then held Moody back, or Bert would have probably scored.

The blues made another fine attack, and R. Hawkes shot just by the corner of the goal.

Play developed in a very dirty way, the visitors playing a very foul game.

Lamberton was badly fouled as he was going for the goal. The referee failed to take any notice until the ball was shot in the net by Lamberton. Then the referee pointed for a free kick. The crowd hissed, and Mr. Kipps met with a suitable reception, but this of course made no difference.

This was a very keen disappointment to the crowd and was cruel luck on Luton. Then after considerable pressure Luton broke away and a terrific shot by R. Hawkes cannoned off one of the New Brompton men. Then Lamberton, who had gone out on the wing, centred, and Moody kicked wide, being given off-side.

Turner saved what appeared to be a certain goal at the expense of a corner, which was cleared. The visitors again became dangerous.

Lindsay saved a long shot from Watts. Luton at once made tracks for the New Brompton goal and Lamberton, who was rank off-side, was allowed to go on, but his effort failed to materialise.

A corner fell to Luton's lot, but though Moody put in a nice touch the ball struck one of the backs and was kept out of goal. Luton were having a bit the better of the play, and another corner followed, but this was of no avail.

The referee was again slow in giving a foul, and once afterwards he gave Eaton off-side, when he purposely got out of the way.

Moody skimmed the ball with a grand shot, the ball striking the bar and bouncing over. Half-time:—

LUTON	...	...	...	...	0
NEW BROMPTON	...	...	...	...	0

The crowd thought Luton had scored as Barnes headed by the post from a centre by Lamberton.

Barnes made a run on the left, but Walton had to kick out. White, who was nicknamed "Baby" on account of his weight and genteel play, then laid Sammy Eaton out, and he had to have the attention of the trainer.

The New Brompton half-backs, especially the wing men, were playing a very foul game, never hesitating to lay the forward low when he happened to get by. Bob Hawkes was served in this way.

Lamberton gave the goalkeeper a hot handful, and Pritchard followed suit, but Griffith cleared both attempts. Luton were having the better of the game, and were again baffled through being pulled up for a foul.

The ball then nearly went through, Bob Hawkes nearly succeeding in getting the ball through. "Baby" proved the stumbling block.

The New Brompton men made another attack, and then Luton was awarded another foul. It was really a surprise that some of the Luton men were not hurt by the tactics of the visitors. White shot just over the goal-post. All efforts seemed to prove unavailing.

Griffiths saved a very smart header from Lamberton, and once a couple of minutes later the same player shot just wide.

Whenever a Luton man got on the run he was fouled by one of the visitors, who were playing a very dirty and despicable game.

Eaton left the field ten minutes from the end, doubtless owing to the injury inflicted by White, the New Brompton back.

Moody was fouled within the penalty line, and the referee consulting the linesmen gave a penalty. Bob converted, to the huge delight of the crowd. This success even made Eaton better, and he came back to the field. Result:—

LUTON	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
NEW BROMPTON	...	...	...	...	...	...	0

NOTES ON THE GAME.

After a couple of matches on opponents' territory Luton returned to their own enclosure on Saturday to meet New Brompton.

The absence of Ross caused a general alteration in the Luton team. Pritchard being out at left half, Bob Hawkes going inside right and partnering Eaton, whilst Lamberton was played centre forward, the latter choice being a popular one.

A strong wind was blowing when Mac lost the toss, but Luton commenced in a most promising manner, and twice got very close to the visitors' goal, Moody putting in one particularly good shot.

New Brompton forced a corner, but they could not often get near the Luton goal. Luton were not long in forcing a fruitless corner at the other end, and generally speaking Mac's men were having considerably the best of the play.

Once Moody got nicely through, but he was deliberately held by White—the burly back on the other side—and a certain goal was saved, nothing coming from the free kick.

The referee was not of the strong order at all, and at times appeared to be completely lost. Once Lamberton got well down smartly, and was fouled, but scored a fine goal, and then to the disappointment of the crowd, the referee gave the free kick instead of allowing the goal which he ought to have done. It was a case where the sinners reaped the benefit of their own sins.

The visitors were showing somewhat vigorous methods, and were taking advantage of the weakness of the referee.

Another corner fell to Luton, which Griffiths saved smartly, and off another Luton were again fortunate. The play was kept continually in the visitors half, but they defended strongly by kicking anywhere and everywhere.

Luton got down time after time, but somehow just at the crucial moment they failed, Barnes in one particular incident slipping just as he was well placed. Nearing the interval Eaton put in a fine shot, and there was a general appeal, for a penalty, as it was saved by an opponent, but without avail.

When the interval arrived the score-sheet still stood blank, but on the run of the first half Luton deserved to be at least a couple of goals up. It was certainly not Luton's day out, for ill-luck has dogged their footsteps throughout.

In the second half Luton again commenced well, and in the first two minutes Luton came very near scoring.

It was heartrending to see the Luton forwards continually being brought down by illegitimate tactics, whenever they began to get dangerous, and at length the penalty kick which resulted was fully merited, and by this Luton eventually won.

For a few minutes the visitors had a bit the best of the play, but the Luton defence defended well, and Lindsay had nothing to do.

New Brompton were still playing very vigorously, and after Eaton had been winded, Bob Hawkes was badly tripped just as he had a chance to get through.

Twice Griffiths had to handle smartly, and the visitors' goal had a miraculous escape, the ball bobbing about right in the mouth of the goal, but only a corner kick was the outcome, and this yielded nothing tangible, and neither did another two minutes later.

Hands for Luton against the visitors near goal looked dangerous and so did the resulting corner kick, but both were cleared, and then the visitors' White again brought down Lamberton dirtily.