

DRAW A FAIR

RESULT IN

64/65

SCRAPPY GAME

LUTON TOWN 1, PETERBOROUGH 1

CONTROVERSY after the match with Peterborough at Kenilworth-road this afternoon turned mainly on the "goal" which John O'Rourke had disallowed.

To me it looked a perfectly legitimate effort and from the brief talk I was able to have with Town officials afterwards they were of the same frame of mind. O'Rourke himself was firmly of the opinion that he had touched nobody in the process and had headed the ball in cleanly.

However, the referee told me, "O'Rourke levered himself up on the shoulder of an opponent. It was a perfect leapfrog."

At the same time I do not feel disposed to quibble at this result, disappointing though it was, because the Town badly needed a victory to re-adjust some of the poor results they have had lately.

In fact I am prepared to say that a draw was probably as equable a result as could be expected from a game that had many scrappy passages.

By and large the Town were much below the standard that is expected of them, and their home form, which has yielded them only four points out of ten is causing grave concern.

Reasons for the partial failure this afternoon I would pinpoint largely on the lack of build-up of attacks in mid-field. There is the urgent need for more construction at wing-half and an all-round necessity for greater accuracy of distribution.

Another weak link was at inside-forward, where Reid had a poor day, mainly because of the inaccuracy of his passes, and McKechnie for all his hustle and bustle achieved little in the end.

The fact that O'Rourke is not among the goals so freely as he was last season is being bemoaned, but I feel that much of the trouble stems from the fact that far too frequently he is being left to go it alone.

Danger man of the front line undoubtedly was Pleat who could have used better support and who at the same time was out of touch with his finishing on occasions.

In the main the Town forwards seemed bothered by the domination Sims held in the penalty area and really they seldom looked like beating him.

Peterborough, on balance, had the better chances despite a pretty solid barrier put up by McBain, Fincham and Bramwell. It was by no means a game to remember and while the hard grounds remain with us the standard of football in this division will continue to be low.

Attendance: 9,339.