

EASY FOR LUTON

73/74
(F.L.C.)

IN THE end it wasn't too difficult at all.

Luton's second League Cup second round replay at Grimsby last night revealed the division of difference between the two clubs.

The Town shook off Saturday's defeat at Orient and played self-assured football.

They appeared to be back on the ball and should be heading for a place in the fourth round. Their third round opponents are Fourth Division Bury who won't be given much change at Kenilworth Road next Wednesday.

One of the reasons for Luton's victory was the return to their attacking system. John Ryan dropped out with a virus and Tom Finney returned to strengthen the attack.

Deathly

Finney celebrated his recall by heading Luton ahead in the 17th minute. John Faulkner made sure of victory by heading in a 39th-minute corner.

Both goals were supplied by Town's best forward John Aston — and were received in deathly silence by Grimsby's biggest crowd of the season.

Luton looked streets ahead in skill. Their football was cool



Grimsby 0
Luton 2

Finney 17 mins Faulkner 39

By ROGER
DUCKWORTH

and calculated with new lad Alan West doing a superlative job in midfield.

West sent Aston away with an accurate pass to set up the first goal and his long distribution was crisp and cutting.

Grimsby were again the tough guys making Luton look like thoroughbreds in a donkey derby. Some of the Mariners' tackling had Third Division North written all over it. It's a good job Luton quickly learned how to jump over scything legs and Anderson did well to recover from a crude tackle by Hickman.

Restricted

The Northern crowd could sense defeat from the start and last week's electric atmosphere faded early.

Now Town are set for Bury's visit

Comfortably ahead by half-time Luton mopped it up in midfield in the second half. This restricted their attacks to one header from Anderson but helped to develop an understanding between West and his colleagues.

Speedy

It made Grimsby more and more frantic. But most of their shooting was kept at long distance by Luton.

Barber, however, made three good saves in the second half to Sharp, Hubbard and Beardsley.

Faulkner had another tremendous game in the heart of the defence and he always had the fast support of Garner who did a good job on speedy Hubbard.

The tackling of Shanks and

the speedy interception and coolness of Thomson gave the Town defence a well-balanced and self-assured appearance.

Anderson fought hard in midfield and was never afraid to get in the thick of things. With West and Jim Ryan supplying the attack with constant passes Luton always looked as if they were about to go on a goal jaunt.

In the second half they were pegged back a little but Grimsby never looked good enough to get back into the game.

There was some grand ball control and running from Finney and Butlin seemed to have regained some of his recently lost confidence.

GRIMSBY: Wainman; Beardsley, Booth, Chatterley, Wiggington, Gray, Barton, Hickman, Hubbard, Czuczman, Sharp (Lewis, 70 mins).

LUTON: Barber; Shanks, Thomson, Anderson, Faulkner, Garner, Jim Ryan, Finney, Butlin, West, Aston. Sub: Cruse.

Referee: Mr J. Hunting (Leicester).

Attendance: 15,365



Luton centre-half John Faulkner easily outjumps the Grimsby defence to head the second goal from a 39th minute corner