

HAPPY HATTERS RECORD

Torquay 0

Luton 1



AHMET BRKOVIC



PROMOTION-CHASING
Luton set a new club record of 11 away wins in a season as they secured a 1-0 success at Torquay.

A first-half goal by Ahmet Brkovic clinched the win for Joe Kinnear's side.

The Croatian midfielder beat advancing Torquay goalkeeper Kevin Dearden before rolling home his first league goal for the Hatters.

From then on, Luton's rock-solid defence, with Russell Perrett outstanding, made certain of the three points.

Dean Crowe and Perrett wasted good opportunities to add to their advantage as they outplayed a struggling Gulls side.

Luton boss Joe Kinnear was delighted with his side's win, but claimed: "With a bit more firepower up front, we would have won more easily."

The Hatters were without three strikers — suspended duo Steve Howard and Adrian Forbes, as well as long-term casualty Carl Griffiths.

Kinnear added: "I could have got two new players in by now, but I wasn't prepared to pay the prices being asked. We are still haggling over the money."

"I thought we had enough players who can score goals from midfield. The important thing was that we didn't give anything away in defence."

"Sometimes we've gone away from home a bit gung-ho and come unstuck."

"But in our last two away games I don't think we let Lincoln have a shot when we won 1-0 there and, with all due respect to Torquay, I can only remember them having one chance in each half."

Luton lost defender Marvin Johnson with a head injury midway through the second half.

Gulls boss Roy McFarland said: "We had a lack of quality in the final third, and our crossing was poor."

"One chance in each half from a home side isn't good enough."

"We haven't had anybody up front all season who can score goals regularly, and until that's rectified we will continue in this vein."

With Leyton Orient beating bottom club Halifax, the gap between the Shaymen and Torquay remains 10 points, and McFarland added: "Games are starting to run out, and we must keep that distance between us."

"The job is to stay in this division by any means possible."