



Mid Somerset's Andy "Bungli" Berry in action against Exmouth on Saturday

wehock1510

Taunton Civil Service 1st 2
Mid Somerset 1st 5

Mids' firsts maintained their 100 per cent record with their third consecutive league victory against Taunton Civil Service on Saturday.

Taunton were the strongest side that Mids have played this season and they equalised with a break away from their right winger, after Mids had taken an early lead inside five minutes.

The opening goal came from an Andy Rogers shot, from a short corner, which was stopped on the line by a defender's foot. Rogers then converted the resultant penalty stroke.

Mids won the game by half-time as they raced into a four-one lead.

Andy Berry and Dave Lennard combined to set up skipper Roger Knife for goal two, while Martin White smashed in the third from the top of the D.

Lennard then rounded the goalkeeper to complete the first half goals.

Mids' fifth goal came from another short corner when the ball was returned to the taker Darren Wilson who found the back of the net. Civil Service scored a consolation goal in the dying minutes but Mids emerged deserved winners by five goals to two.

Man of the match was Andy Berry.

Mid Somerset 2nds 6
North Devon 2nds 0

There was no doubt this was Mids' best team performance for a number of years and surpassed all last year's victories in what was a promotion season.

Mids played so well that North Devon were never in the match, the visitors did not gain one short corner. It would be difficult to mention individuals as everyone played well, but two players were worthy of special mention. Jon Sawyer answered the call to vacate his midfield slot and go in goal due to a severe shortage of keepers, while Matt Pope scored four goals. Sawyer made some important stops in the first half while the game was goalless, and Pope gave Mids a two-goal half time lead with both goals from short corner strikes.

Skipper Gareth Searey scored in the first minute of the second half, while Mike Davis added number four. Pope then scored another two to make it four in the game, as Mids' seconds recorded their first league win of the season.

Chard 2nds 3
Mid Somerset 3rds 2

After two heavy defeats Mids' thirds responded in the best possible way with a much better performance at Chard.

It proved to be an eventful debut for Mark Lawrence. Playing up front, he opened the scoring after five minutes with a good shot and then gave Mids a 2-1 lead early in the second half, after a good pass from Findlay Rarity. The game then turned on a disputed Chard equaliser.

George Dye cleared the ball off the goal-line but the umpire thought the ball had crossed it and awarded a goal. Mids' goalkeeper Bob Seddon was so incensed that his protests brought him a yellow card and a temporary suspension.

Lawrence then came to the rescue as he took over in goal and he managed not to concede before Seddon returned. Chard scored the winner when Mids had eleven players on the field. This was a close game, which Chard just edged.

Mid Somerset 1sts 5
Exeter Hornets B 1

Mid Somerset consolidated their position at the top of South East Division One with their fourth consecutive league victory on Saturday.

Although the final score reflected the playing differences between the two sides, this was not an easy victory. For long spells in the second half, when Mids only

had a one-goal lead, Hornets looked dangerous on the counter attack and Mids had to wait until the final minutes of the game before they were assured of victory.

The first half started well with a two-goal lead, both resulting from short corners. The first arose when a strike was stopped on the line by a defender's foot and Darren Wilson scored from the penalty stroke. Wilson also scored the second when the ball was returned to him after he took another short corner push out. Hornets pulled a goal back early in the second half and then looked dangerous until Mids wrapped up the match late in the game. Dan Durston scored the third with a short corner strike, while Dave Lennard scored twice in the last two minutes, the latter coming as a result of a through ball from Martin White.

Taunton Civil Service 2nds 5
Mid Somerset 2nds 3

After the euphoria of last week's victory over North Devon, Mids' seconds faced a difficult task against an experienced Civil Service side.

Taunton opened the scoring midway through the first half after a fortuitous short corner where the ball was chested off the line and the home side converted the resulting penalty stroke. Mids then equalised with one of the best goals of the game as after a surging run from midfield by Jonathan Crees, he set up Shaun Plenty to score Mids' second.

Taunton then pulled one back just before half-time and they raced into a 4-1 lead in the second half. Mike Davis reduced arrears from a narrow angle and Jason Evans saved a penalty stroke, justice indeed as Mids are still not sure why this was even awarded. After Taunton scored their fifth, Mids scored the final goal in the dying minutes with a short corner strike from skipper Gareth Searey.

Mid Somerset 3rds 2
Bridport 2nds 2

Mids' thirds gained their first league point of the season when they came from two goals down against Bridport.

The visitors finished second last year, but due to a league re-organisation they were not promoted.

Despite good defensive play from Jody Wood and Alan Wilton, Mids found themselves two goals in arrears at half-time, but a second half fight-back earned the team a draw. Mark Lawrence got onto the score sheet for the second week running with the first goal, while with only two minutes remaining Ian Witcombe set off on a run from the halfway line to score a fine equalising goal.

Bridgwater 5ths 1
Mid Somerset 4ths 4

This was Mids' fourths first league victory of the season when they defeated their local rivals Bridgwater.

There were good performances from youngsters Ed Manders, Chris West, Jack Fursley and Patrick Willis. The latter opened the scoring for Mids with a rebound from a short corner strike, while veteran John Price put Mids in the driving seat with a brace of goals.

Bridgwater pulled a goal back before both teams missed penalty strokes.

However, Jan Bloomfield made amends for missing Mids' stroke when he scored Mids' fourth goal to wrap up a convincing victory.

South East Div I

Mid Somerset	4	4	0	0	18	3	12
ECV Hornets A	4	3	1	0	15	4	10
Torbay A	4	2	1	1	14	8	7
Taunton Vale B	4	2	0	2	19	15	6
Chard	4	2	0	2	10	9	6
ECV Hornets B	4	2	0	2	5	7	6
Taunton CS	4	1	1	2	9	13	4
Exeter Uni B	4	1	0	3	6	14	3
Isca C	4	1	0	3	10	21	3
Exmouth	4	0	1	3	5	17	1

South East Div II

Ottery Crickets A	4	4	0	0	18	1	12
Sidmouth A	4	3	1	0	26	1	10
Torbay B	4	3	1	0	11	4	10
Taunton CS A	4	2	0	2	12	12	6
Bridgwater A	3	1	1	1	16	3	4
Exeter Uni C	3	1	1	1	8	5	4
Mid Somerset A	4	1	1	2	10	10	4
North Devon A	3	0	1	2	2	11	1
Chudleigh A	3	0	0	3	0	18	0
Dawlish A	4	0	0	4	0	38	0