

East Grinstead Town 1 v Sevenoaks 1 – Saturday 6th October 2018

Match Report by Stewart Ward

The Wasps extended their unbeaten run to four games with a hard fought draw at a cold and wet East Court on Saturday.

It was a game that was always in balance as both sides had periods of domination but in the end a draw was a fair result

It was Sevenoaks who started the brighter and they were twice denied by sharp saves by Sheikh Ceesay diving to his left to deny both Thomas Ripley and Wilson Johnson-Cole.

It was however Johnson-Cole who gave Sevenoaks the lead on fifteen minutes. Grinstead had been struggling to deal with Sevenoaks set pieces and from a right wing corner Johnson-Cole rose highest to head past Ceesay.

Grinstead responded well and started to dominate playing some attractive football in the process. They went close when Mitchell Chapman was denied by a goal line clearance which was closely followed by an Orlando Smith shot that was deflected goalwards by Dean Gunner, but he was denied by a fine save from Ben Bridle-Card.

Bridle-Card then produced another good save this time from Karn Miller-Neave before Sevenoaks broke quickly through the quick Johnson-Cole who strode clear of the Grinstead only to shoot weakly at Ceesay.

Grinstead got back on level terms nine minutes into the second half. Johnson-Cole turned hero to villain when he hauled down Miller-Neave in the box allowing George Landias to calmly slot home the resultant penalty.

The Wasps were in the ascendancy at this stage and were hoping to look for the winner but Sevenoaks had other ideas and started to play themselves back in the game. Johnson-Cole again was causing problems with his pace and should have done better with a two on one situation only to see his pass snuffed out by Gunner.

Landias then went close twice for Grinstead with sharp turns and shots in the box. The first being deflected just wide and the Bridle-Card was lucky to see the ball deflect over for a corner after he struggled to deal with the wet ball.

Sevenoaks started to apply some late pressure and on the stroke of full time should have claimed all three points when a corner was not dealt with, but from just two yards out, Ripley could only see his shot cannon of the post.