

East Grinstead Town 1 v Whyteleafe 3 – Monday 27th August 2018

The Wasps poor start to the league season continued on Bank Holiday Monday when they were comfortably beaten by a Whyteleafe side still with a hundred percent record.

The score line could have been a lot worse but for Sheikh Ceesay, who kept Grinstead in it with a string of fine saves, particularly in the first half.

Having recorded a morale boosting win against South Park in the FA Cup just two days earlier Grinstead would have entered the game in a confident mood, but Whyteleafe took command from the first whistle.

Despite having kept a clean sheet in the previous game, the defence was reshuffled to facilitate the loss of Ryan Johnson through injury, and they struggled to come to terms with the pace and movement of the Whyteleafe front line

Eddie Dsane hit the woodwork twice in the first half hour. He headed a cross to the back post against the crossbar, before somehow finding the post from 2 yards out after Ceesay had failed to hold a Bradley Wilson freekick.

Ceesay was called into action shortly after parrying a powerful shot from Harrison Carnegie and he then denied the lively Dan Hector with a point blank save.

Just as Grinstead looked to be holding on to halftime, Dsane put Whyteleafe in front two minutes before the break when he headed home a free kick from close range.

Grinstead had offered little, with their main threat Sid Sollis looking a frustrated figure, spending more time inside his own half as Grinstead struggled to weather the storm.

The second half continued in similar fashion as Whyteleafe continued to dominate and they deservedly double their lead ten minutes in. Hector drew a foul from Karn Miller-Neave just inside the box, Dsane emphatically dispatched the resultant penalty.

On the hour mark it was three. Hector drove in from the right and hit a powerful shot that flew past Ceesay.

Game over, but following a flurry of substitutes Grinstead did finish the stronger. Orlando Smith's cross from the left somehow eluded everybody before skipper Callum Emptage headed over from 3 yards out following a Sollis header across goal. Three minutes from time substitute Ainsley Everett hit the post from the edge of the box.

In the fifth minute of injury time Grinstead did grab a consolation following good work from Sollis on the right. whose cross was tapped in from close range by Everett..

Team: Ceesay, Boulding, Miller-Neave, Wilson M(Everett), Emptage, Springett, Mazzone, Hogan (Bray), Elliott, Sollis, Wilson B (Smith). Subs not used: Tennent, Giraud-Hutchinson.