

CHIPSTEAD 1 - EAST GRINSTEAD TOWN 0

By Stewart Ward

For the second season in recent years Grinstead failed in their attempts to reach the Third Qualifying round of the FA Cup, the furthest they would have ever reached, with a disappointing defeat away to Chipstead on Saturday.

Having played so well to reach this stage against higher league Worthing, Grinstead never reached anywhere near the level of the performance, and a first half goal from Tom Collins was enough to dump them out of the cup.

Grinstead made a bright enough start with Jerry Amoo starting particularly causing problems down the Chipstead left, however despite their early dominance the Chipstead goal was rarely threatened.

Although no chances were created Grinstead were the dominant side so it was a surprise when Chipstead scored what turned out to be the only goal of the game in the thirty fourth minute.

Grinstead were caught pushing forward and a long ball from George Membrillera released Tom Collins who drove inside the box before firing home inside the near post.

There was little in way of reaction from Grinstead after going behind as the game became scrappy with both keepers well protected by their respective defences.

The beginning of the second half saw little change to the pattern of the game and when Jerome Beckles was sent off for a second yellow card following a late challenge on Jensen Grant the game looked over for Grinstead

However the sending off seemed to galvanise Grinstead and with the introduction of Calum Davies, Grinstead did start to look brighter going forward and it was through Davies that Grinstead had a gilt edged chance to equalise. Davies made space in the penalty area as he tricked his way past Marco Correia before being hauled down. Amoo looked confident stepping up for the penalty kick, however his shot was poorly struck but it still took a good save from Oliver Pain who got down quickly to his left. His 3rd penalty save in successive rounds.

Grinstead continued to push for the equaliser but apart from a close range effort from Leo Theophanous, which somehow stayed out at the near post they were denied any clear cut opportunities from a well marshalled Chipstead defence and indeed Chipstead nearly extended the lead when, with Grinstead pushing more men forward, George Membrillera broke away only to be denied by a fantastic save from Grinstead keeper Jacob Adams.

Team: Adams, Clohessy, Harrison (Carvalho), Beckles, Gasson, Wilson, Amoo, Waldren, Theophanous, Uchechi (Smith), Thompson (Davies).

Subs not used: Uwezu, Harding, Reardon, Omrore