

Londoner FC

The Reporter

Dons nick late equaliser

Weekend Results

- Bulls Head beat Japanese to go top
- Dubliner continue winning ways beating Blitz 4-1
- Scans beat Winkling Frog 4-2
- German AS down British Club 3-1 in leagues longest running derby match

League Standings

Bull's Head	4	9
RC Pattaya	4	7
Dubliner	4	7
German AS	4	7
Les Gaulois	2	6
Shrewsbury	2	6
Londoner	2	4

A magnificent second half fight back saw Londoner grab a share of the points with a wonder goal from debutant Nick Sargeant in the last minute of normal time. Trailing 2-0 at half time a re-energised Londoners team emerged to press forward at every opportunity and were worthy of sharing the spoils with a well organised and spirited Pattaya side.

Following their opening goal fest the Dons took to the field with a spring in their step to face their first real test against a Pattaya side that year on year is one of the front running teams in the Casuals league. Fielding only one change from the team that started the last match, confidence was high. Perhaps too high as the change was in defence and whilst still trying to get organised they conceded an excellent goal inside five minutes when Pattaya broke quickly down their right flank, created an overlap, got a shot off which Torrance could only parry onto his post and then watch as the ball spun along the goal line and into the net. Buoyed by the early strike Pattaya played the ball about well and

gave the Dons defence a solid work out without actually testing Torrance further. Londoner struggled to get into their stride and were being rushed into poor quality distribution especially in the final third of the park with Messrs Wild and Wilde being significantly deprived of good service. In the 20th minute Pattaya extended their lead when a break down the left saw a ball played into the near post Derek Stamp and Khun Chai both challenged for the ball resulting in them both on the ground with the ball between them only for Chai to use superb opportunism to toe poke the ball high into the net with the keeper stranded. At 2-0 down and not getting any quality possession Coach MacDonald decreed enough was enough and shuffled the side bringing Khun Dao back into defence and giving Sargeant his Dons debut. Immediately there was a much greater balance to the side and for the first time Londoner were being competitive in midfield. Half time arrived with neither side really testing the keepers further.

Down but not out was clearly the management message during the break as the Dons emerged invigorated and immediately took the game to the visitors. Some excellent work in midfield with interchange between Paam, Danny Kemp and Nick Sargeant saw a through ball for Manas to run onto and force an excellent

save from the keeper. The second half continued in a similar vain throughout with the Dons defence being relegated to spectators for much of it as Pattaya tried to maintain their advantage. Finally midway through the half man of the match Sargeant found some wriggle room and seeing an opening crashed a drive into the top of the net with the keeper having no chance. Hope surged and a renewed Dons team continued to keep up the pressure on the now tiring visitors. Khun Wut came on for Manas and his added pace was immediately threatening. A number of direct free kicks in and around the box failed to find their marks as the flood of red continued forward. Then just when it appeared that Pattaya had done enough Nick Sargeant picked up the ball wriggled past two tackles saw the smallest of gaps and crashed the ball high into the top left corner for a deserved equaliser amidst loud celebration. One minute later both teams were exchanging hand shakes at the end of a competitive and hard fought match with honours even being a fair reflection on the game.

Man of the match with out question was debutant Nick Sargeant although all in the red and white played well on yet another hot hot day in sunny Bangkok.

Dons go head to head with Scans

Next week sees Londoner face yet another team with an impressive league pedigree when they run out against the Scandinavian Vikings. Following the hard fought draw with last years third placed Pattaya the Dons next face the team that finished

second to Dubliner and despite an unusually slow start to their season will once more offer a serious challenge to the newcomers. Match KO's at 4.30pm at Patana School for all lovers of the beautiful game.

