

Londoner FC

The Reporter



Daeng decisive for Dons

Weekend Results

- Dubliner kicked off for a second weekend in succession in the knowledge that nearest rivals Londoner had won. Undaunted they ran out 3-1 winners over Bangkok Utd.
- Bullshead thumped Robin Hood 6-1 in the battle of Soi 33/1.
- Pattaya FC beat Seaboard 3-0 in the all Pattaya clash that pushed them into 4th in the league
- British Club and the Scandinavian Vikings shared 4 goals in the heat of the day.
- Les Gaulois completed an impressive turn around against old rivals German AS, trailing 2-0 they eventually ran out 8-2 winners.
- Shrewsbury not content with one match in the sun entertained Winking Frog on the Sunday and managed a 2-2 draw.

The Dons occasionally laboured en route to seeing off a spirited Shrewsbury side 4-2 as they continue the chase after runaway leaders Dubliner. On an afternoon that had clear blue skies, and was therefore HOT DAMN HOT, Daeng's fierce strike midway through the second half finally broke Shrewsbury's resistance.

Bangkok in late April can be extremely warm and Saturday at 3.00pm was a fine example of just how hot it can get as Londoner clashed with Shrewsbury for the first time this season following the cancellation earlier in the year. Despite the temperature and Torrance and MacDonald's team talk the Dons failed to play their characteristic passing game from the outset and indeed both teams were guilty of running about like demented chickens in the early period. In these early stages the Shrewsbury keeper was called into action a number of times

and dealt with everything very confidently which indeed was to be a feature of the remainder of the game. Whilst lacking serious penetration the Dons had been in no danger in the opening period when disaster struck. A hopeful free kick into the box was just too high for Firth it bounced in front of Alex Stamp who surprisingly decided to leave it for his keeper and in the mix up a Shrewsbury forward accepted the early Xmas present (or was it a late one?) and crashed the ball into the net.

Shaken and stirred would be the best way to describe the Dons reaction and they started to show greater determination and direction as they looked for a quick reply and a cleverly worked through ball from Menhorn found Downer who drove the ball home only to have it erased by the Assistant's offside flag. Their efforts were however rewarded in the 15th minute when Manas brought a through ball under control before smashing a curling 20 yard drive passed the dive of the despairing keeper. Downer, who had been tormenting the Shrewsbury defence throughout, then took possession on the left before cutting inside and smashing a delightful shot into the corner of the net to put the Dons ahead in the 20th minute. Things then seemed to go from bad to worse for Shrewsbury when Entwhistle cut in from the left and his shot took a wicked deflection off the defender and it spun agonisingly slowly into the net with the keeper committed to going the other way and suddenly Londoner were coasting. Late in the half with the pace down considerably, hesitation in the last third of the pitch by a Don's player allowed the visitor's sight of goal and the powerful drive stretched Torrance to his left to remind the Dons the game was by no means over.

Half Time: Londoner 3 vs Shrewsbury 1

With no let up in the temperature the Dons kicked off determined to pass

the ball around and proceeded to do so despite Shrewsbury pressing much higher up the field. Seemingly in control of the game an innocuous tug of the shirt by Kemp resulted in a free kick on the goal line. From the resulting cross to the back post the ball found the head of a Shrewsbury player was then deflected goal wards inadvertently by a Dons defender before being helped home by a Shrewsbury player 6 inches from the goal line. Despite the rest of the world realising the goal scorer was clearly in an offside position the previously eagle eyed Assistant did not and the goal stood and once more Shrewsbury were back in the match. Scrappy would probably be the best description of the next 15 minutes or so as the Londoner went through a phase of uncertainty although during the period Shrewsbury failed to manage a single effort. With the heat clearly telling Daeng then picked the ball up wide on the left came inside on a diagonal run and thrashed a drive into the net on the keeper's short side for a superb goal. The relief was almost palpable as the players congratulated Daeng and the effect on Shrewsbury no less so allowing the Dons to play out the remaining 10 minutes of the match with no further worries.

Full Time: Londoner 4 vs Shrewsbury 2

With regulars Ball, Wild and Paum not available the side took time to adjust especially at the back but Messrs Stamp, Stamp, Firth and latterly Dao eventually got things squared away. In midfield the heat of the day was merciless with Menhorn, Silvas, Kemp and Entwhistle covering an enormous amount of territory, a special mention for debut boy Timms who discovered up close and personal how hot it can be, Tic and Tack both worked hard, Manas and Downer both took their goals well but man of the match for his all round performance and all important goal was Daeng.

Man of the Match: Daeng

League Standings

Dubliner	23	60
Londoner FC	20	50
Bullshead	23	45
Pattaya	21	33
Les Gaulois	20	32
Seaboard FC	22	29
Bangkok Utd	20	29

Next game vs Shrewsbury

Our next match is also against Shrewsbury School on Sunday 1st May at Patana School with a 3.00pm kick off. With Dubliner having no match this weekend it is an opportunity for the Dons to close the gap on their rivals. All lovers of the famous game remember your sun hats in case once more it is HOT DAMN HOT.