

Londoner FC

# The Reporter



## Table top clash finishes all square

### Weekend Results

- Dubliner got on the goal trail against cellar dwellers the BC Casuals winning 6-1
- Les Gaulois ran out 3-1 winners against an improving Sunbelt Thai Visa
- Fire & Gas continued their impressive recent run beating Bullshead 3-0 at Patana as they warm up for their return derby match against Seaboard.
- Winking Frog moved back into second place in the league beating Robin Hood 3-0
- The German AS met Bangkok Utd in the Sunday game.

**The final whistle left the teams sharing the points in an entertaining top of the table clash, Londoner having shaded the first half and Seaboard the second.**

A three hour bus trip from Bangkok saw Londoner arriving late at the ground and they were grateful to their hosts for agreeing to delay the kick off until they had got stretched off. Surprisingly despite this it was Londoner who got out of the blocks quickest seizing command of midfield with their play forcing Seaboard onto the defensive and stretching them wide on both sides. Enjoying a huge percentage of the possession they stroked the ball about forcing Seaboard to play chase the ball and a couple of cross balls resulted in headers just too wide or too high as they pressed for the opener. With some of Seaboard's key players being well marshalled they were finding it difficult to get out of their half and so it was no surprise when the Dons got the break through albeit from the spot. Steve Reid being pulled down from behind inside the area

and Navin Downer making no mistake from the resulting penalty kick. The breakthrough seemed to finally wake Seaboard up and they put some pressure on the Dons defence as the game entered the closing minutes of the first half and when Alex Stamp was judged to have fouled his opponent going for a high ball the referee was pointing to the spot. Veteran keeper Torrance however guessed correctly and dove to his right to knock the spot kick past the post to maintain the Dons advantage. A couple of tense corner kicks later and the referee was blowing to end the first half.

Half time: Seaboard 0 vs Londoner 1

The second half saw Seaboard come out in determined fashion and take the game to the Dons as they edged the possession percentage but equally failing to carve out any real openings against a Dons side that were defending well. As the half progressed Londoner were defending deeper and deeper and in a game of so few chances it was probably inevitable that the equaliser also came from a dead ball situation when a free kick 20 yards from goal found the top corner of the net despite the keeper's finger



Navin Downer converted all important penalty kick with aplomb

tips. With the game now perfectly poised there was further drama when Torrance had to be substituted due to injury and he was replaced by Stamp in goal and the big man pulled off a fantastic diving save in the last minute of play to deny Seaboard what would have been an excellent second half recovery. All in all a draw was a fair result over the piece, both sides playing attractive flowing football throughout leaving the league championship wide open still with three months to run.

Full Time: Seaboard 1 vs Londoner 1

Man of the Match: The Londoner team!

### League Standings

Londoner	16	39
Winking Frog	16	35
Seaboard	14	34
Dubliner	15	34
Bullshead	17	31
Les Gaulois	17	31
F&G Pattaya	16	27

### Next Week . . Another BIG ONE

The Dons having finished their travels for the season last week securing a point against Seaboard and immediately face a Winking Frog side that will be determined to revenge the Dons last minute equalizer when they met last. With the table as tight as ever it is

essential that the Dons take full points from this game and with Winking Frog knowing anything less than a win will effectively end their challenge this should be a full blooded affair. Game kicks off at 4.30pm for all yours of the beautiful game.

