

Londoner FC

The Reporter



Dons dump rivals 3-0

Weekend Results

- Woodstock kept up their title chase with a 3-0 victory over Pattana School
- Bullshead continued their revival as they scrapped a far from convincing 1-0 victory over BSL Youth
- Sunbelt and Les Gaulois served up an 8 goal thriller which finished 4-4 and a share of the points
- BC and Winking Frog shared 6 goals and the points
- Bangkok Utd continued their much improved form beating Vikings 4-2
- German All Stars romped by SCI Pickled Liver 4-0

League Standings

Londoner	19	49
Woodstock	19	44
Pattaya	18	37
Bullshead	17	37
German AS	17	35
Les Gaulois	18	30
Winking Frog	18	30

Londoner rebounded strongly from the previous week's defeat to run out 3-0 winners over closest rivals Pattaya City down at Horseshoe Point and send a strong message to their other title rivals that they were not going to relinquish the league championship readily.

With the old 'six pointer' cliché firmly in both sets of players minds, the league title potentially at stake and both sides stinging from recent defeat it was always going to be a rousing game with everything to play for. The Dons choose to enjoy the wind at their backs in the first half as they kicked up slope but took a while adjusting to the playing surface and the bounce of the ball and it was Torrance who was first in action parrying away a free kick from 20 yards. Slowly Londoner got back into the game and Nui's pace was causing the City back line a lot of problems and on 20 minutes he managed to win a corner on the right. David Cooper had gone up to add to the threat and when the ball was weakly headed out from the 6 yard box he was on hand to volley back into the roof of the net to give the Dons the lead. The goal settled

Next Match

Next on the Don's schedule is their return match against Bangkok Utd. With the opposition currently unbeaten this year and having beaten the German AS and Winking Frog recently this will be a hard match for

Londoner and they enjoyed good possession throughout the remainder of the half managing to contain the Pattaya forward line comfortably. Torrance was however forced to limp off with minutes of the half remaining victim of a very high knee to the thigh as he collected a long through ball and Derek Stamp made his debut in goal.

Half Time: Pattaya 0 vs Londoner 1

Torrance returned at the beginning of the second half although noticeably limping and clearly in discomfort when trying to deal with high crosses which is precisely what Pattaya were delivering into the 6 yard box at every opportunity. Indeed City should have been back on level terms 6 minutes into the half when a corner found an unmarked City player on the edge of the 6 yard box but his glancing header flew by the upright when it should have found the net. The Dons then got a breakaway with two forwards racing onto the keeper but a slight bobble took the ball into the grateful hands of the keeper as he stopped a certain goal. Minutes later and a strong claim for a penalty was turned down by the referee as Pattaya turned up the pressure in an attempt to get back in the game. The Dons reorganized and moved to 5-4-1 to cancel out the in-

creased threat and almost immediately they got a counter attack opportunity on the left, Navin Downer using his pace to get free down the side line before crossing into the middle where Nui, the keeper and a defender got into a tangle with the ball heading towards the net, a defender got his head to the ball on the line and it looped back out to an in-rushing Andy Duffin who barely got his head to the ball and it looped back towards the goal and over the defender on the line for a bizarre but telling second goal for the Dons. With 5 men at the back Londoner slowly managed to regain control of their defensive third of the field whilst using the speed of Downer, Nui and Ellison to threaten fast counter attacks. With 20 minutes remaining Londoner got the game's final goal, another fast break down the left and as the ball was fired across the keeper and defender got into a terrible muddle and the ball spun off the defender's boot and into the net for an own goal and 3-0 to Londoner. Torrance immediately decided to hobble off and Derek Stamp was once more thrust between the sticks and whilst the City threat was subdued somewhat he confidently handled everything that came his way as he went on to secure a goal keeping debut 'shut out'. On what had been an extremely warm afternoon both sets of players were happy to hear the whistle with Londoner players clearly delighted in achieving such an important victory on hostile territory.

Full Time: Pattaya 0 vs Londoner 3

