

RAF Football Association - E-Bulletin



Birmingham Senior Cup.

Lye Town 2 – RAF SRT 1



The RAF SRT exited the Birmingham Senior Cup at the hands of an extremely hard working Lye Town on 9 Oct. This was the first competitive game of the season and with 5 senior players either away on international duty or injured it was an important opportunity for debutants to stake a claim for the step up.

The RAF started slowly and were punished in the 20th minute after a neat finish from the Lye striker put Lye one up following a clever backheel past the on-rushing keeper set up a side foot tap in with the defence stranded. It still took another 10 minutes for the RAF to get into the game and once they did they had the upper hand with good pressure from the RAF and a couple of efforts blocked with the Lye keeper looking in trouble.



RAF FA E-Bulletin – SRT vs Lye Town FC

Second half changes and formation seemed to aid the RAF who got themselves back into the game when Sgt Carl Evans drove the ball home from a well worked corner.

The RAF were on top at this stage but after a quick Lye Town break, Adams in the RAF goal was called into action, pulling off a great save to turn the ball wide of the post to concede a corner. With the clock ticking down, it looked like the RAF would be the side to go on and secure the victory but a lapse in concentration from a Lye corner allowed the Lye striker to bundle the ball over the line for Lye to regain the lead.



The RAF pushed for an equaliser with Cpl Mike Campbell having 2 opportunities denied by a resolute defence and another decent shot this time from Harbottle. Harbottle's effort saw the Lye Town keeper gathering well. Game finished 2-1 to Lye.

Man of the Match Cpl Sam Rawlings.

Manager Kev Barry said after the game *'I was disappointed with the result but pleased with the commitment and effort. Lye are a very well-respected team in the midland area and a doing well in their league. They don't lose many games that's for sure. Although we are a new looking team there was enough there to show us all that we can compete in games such as this and with the addition of a few more senior players we should become a little more competitive for the whole game as that didn't happen last night. We will assess and make sure we address the periods of the game that we were not quite at it.'*

Our next fixture is a Charity Game at Bromsgrove Sporting on 16 Oct. This is in memory of Thomas Jones who sadly went missing and was later found in the River Severn. All proceeds for the game will go to his family at this very sad time. We all feel honoured to be part of this.



On another note RAF Stalwart Cpl Steve Norton has decided to stand down from RAF Football. Steve has been an incredible servant to RAF Football over the years and Kev, along with all previous RAF managers have benefitted from his significant contribution to RAF Football. Steve has had many highlights during his representative football career and has a great goal scoring record, particular during the IS competition. From all within RAF Football thank you Steve.

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