

ST. NEOTS TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB

EAGLE BITTER UNITED COUNTIES PREMIER LEAGUE MATCH REPORT – SATURDAY 06/10/01

ST. NEOTS TOWN 1 COGENHOE UTD 4

The surprise of the day was the decision, of manager Chris Howell, to drop his leading goalscorer, Steve Kuhne, against his former club Cogenhoe. Kuhne did not even start the game on the bench; Chris Howell's reason was given as a foot-balling decision.

Cogenhoe's form has improved just recently winning their last two league games against Stotfold and Bugbrooke. Darren Harman should have done better, for the visitors, after 5 minutes, but blasted over the bar from close range. Saints response came two minutes later when Vince Petty fired one only inches over the visitors cross bar. Both team came close again on 12 and 13 minutes when Trim Morgan hit the side netting, and Wes Byrne was blocked by keeper, almost on the line, after a good Saints build up.

Cogenhoe opened the scoring through their player manager, Aide Mann, scoring into the top corner from a direct free kick, just outside the area. The remainder of the second half was scrappy with play being continually stopped for niggly, fouls mostly conceded by the visitors.

Saints went further behind, two minutes after the break, when Andy Chapman and Jason Meeds combined to put the ball over Steve Young and into their own net. Another error this time by Brett Fairholme, who was dispossessed on the halfway line, led to Cogenhoe's third. With the Saints defence pushing forward Darren Harmon was quickly released down the left side, cut into the area, and beat Young with a powerful shot just inside the post.

A double substitution saw Claridge and Grieve replace Smith and Brown, on sixty minutes, and both players began to make an impact on the game. Claridge pulled one back for Saints with a fine header, on 72 minutes, after a deep cross from the left flank. Unfortunately Cogenhoe replied, almost immediately, again through Harmon, doubling his tally for the game and sinking any thoughts of a Saints recovery.

Team: Young, Smith, Bloss, Fairholme, McCreanor, Chapman, Petty, Brown, Byrne, Meeds, Buckland.

Subs: Carey, Grieve, Claridge.

Subs Used: Claridge for Brown, Greive for Smith, Carey for Chapman.

Goals: Saints: Claridge (72min)

Cogenhoe: Mann (34min), Chapman (OG 47min), Harmon (55 and 73 mins)