



# CentreSpot

The official news bulletin of the  
**Essex Senior Football League**  
Season 2016/17 Issue #31 – Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2017

## Barking bounce back to beat London Bari

By Lee Power (Source : [www.barkinganddagenhampost.co.uk](http://www.barkinganddagenhampost.co.uk))

*Barking's Steve Willis finds the net against London Bari (pic Terry Gilbert)*

### London Bari 1 Barking 2

Barking took another step towards the Essex Senior League title with a hard-fought win over London Bari at the Old Spotted Dog ground.

They had to come from behind to claim the points, though, as Bari opened the scoring in the first half, before Joe Pearman's corner was headed in by joint player-manager Steve Willis.

And the visitors claimed their winner in the second half when Pearman's free-kick evaded everyone in the box and beat Bari keeper Josh Strizovic to nestle in the corner of the net for his 16th goal of the season.

A fifth win in their last six league outings leaves Barking six points clear of FC Romania, with three games in hand.

Clapton are a further two points back in third place having played one game more than the leaders and can close the gap with victory at Burnham on Tuesday.

But Barking, needing only 13 points from their last eight matches to be crowned champions, then visit Wadham Lodge on Wednesday.

Meanwhile, 17th-placed Bari have just three matches left to play this season and visit Hullbridge Sports next weekend, before trips to east London rivals Tower Hamlets (April 8) and Barkingside (April 14).

Barking: Hatton, Wackers-Kyriacou, Ling, Willis, Rix, Burgess, Oshin, O'Brien, Peagram, Pearman, Staunton.

# From The Archives...

By Rob Errington

From the BASILDON STANDARD of 4<sup>th</sup> February 1956 :

## PITSEA IN FAVOUR OF NEW ESSEX LEAGUE

Six clubs including Pitsea United are in favour of forming a new ESSEX SENIOR FOOTBALL LEAGUE.

If a further six clubs decide to support the league there is a good chance of the competition operating in season 1956-57 provided, of course, the County Association give their consent.

Fourteen clubs (out of a total of 32 circularised) were represented at a meeting in Romford last week when the question of forming a new league was discussed.

\* The six clubs who voted in favour were **Pitsea United, Bata Sports, Maldon Town, Heybridge Swifts, Crittall Athletic and Chingford** while **Clacton Town, Halstead, Stansted and Harris Lebus** said they were "interested".

**Aveley, Brentwood & Warley, Rainham and Dagenham Cables** made no decision.

These clubs and those not represented at the meeting must make a decision one way or other by February 8th.

If 12 clubs are interested a further meeting will be held on February 15th 1956.

I am not aware of any further progress being made and our League did not materialise until August 1971 after successful meetings from the beginning of that year.

On the same news page, Rayleigh Weir applied for a Speedway licence, Car Hire was £ 12.10/- a week plus £1 insurance at S.M.A.C. Southend, Tilbury Rovers Reserves beat Bowers United Reserves 7-1 at Daisy Field, Pitsea United were to visit P.L.A in a London League match whilst their Reserves were due to play Green and Silley Weir at Gun Meadow in a Thurrock Thameside Combination match.

## Final Essex Senior League Table 1971-72

Name	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
1 Witham Town	16	11	3	2	38	11	25
2 Billericay Town	16	11	2	3	30	13	24
3 Pegasus Athletic	16	8	5	3	39	16	21
4 Tiptree United	16	9	1	6	21	19	19
5 Saffron Walden Town	16	8	0	8	27	25	16
6 Basildon United	16	7	2	7	22	21	16
7 Heybridge Swifts	16	5	6	5	26	27	16
8 Southend United "A"	16	1	3	12	18	45	2
9 Stansted	16	1	0	15	11	55	2

From the limited amount of research that I have been able to do since receiving the article from Rob, it appears that the idea of an Essex Senior League may have manifested itself due to the changes that were to happen in the London League when Division 1 was disbanded at the end of 1955-56 season

If anyone can provide further information it would be greatly appreciated.

Send to [derek@bytesizejobs.com](mailto:derek@bytesizejobs.com)

*Derek*

\* The six clubs who voted in favour were **Pitsea United, Bata Sports, Maldon Town** who joined in 1972 and were champions in 1984-85, **Heybridge Swifts** who became founder members in 1971-71 and successive champions (3) 1981-82 to 1983-84, **Crittall Athletic and Chingford** while **Clacton Town, Halstead, Stansted** who finished bottom of the London League - Div 1 (14/14) and switched to Herts County league the following season became founder members and champions for the first and, thus far, only time in 2009-2010 - were it not for a 3-point deduction the title would have been retained the following season - and **Harris Lebus** said they were "interested".

**Aveley**, the London League runner-up, **Brentwood & Warley, Rainham (Town ?)** and **Dagenham Cables** made no decision.

## 1955-56 League Records

Delphian	P	W	D	L	F	A	P	POS
Brentwood	28	5	3	20	42	80	13	14/15
Rainham Town	28	18	3	7	71	45	39	3/15

Eastern Counties	P	W	D	L	F	A	P	POS
Clacton Town	38	23	2	13	90	55	48	5/20

London League - Premier Division	P	W	D	L	F	A	P	POS
Aveley	24	13	7	4	61	35	33	2/13

London League - Division 1	P	W	D	L	F	A	P	POS
Bata Sports	26	18	3	5	76	32	39	1/14
Chingford	26	13	5	8	61	47	31	5/14
Dagenham Cbals	26	13	4	9	79	55	30	7/14
Harris Lebus	26	9	8	9	54	59	26	9/14
Pitsea United	26	7	4	15	54	83	18	10/14
Stansted	26	5	3	18	34	90	13	14/14

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2017

League Challenge Cup – 2nd Round		
Enfield 189	1-2	Wadham Lodge
Alex Salmon 28	Att.44	Calvin Poku 18, 65

Reserves Division		
Bishop's Stortford	2-2	Heybridge Swifts

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2017

Premier Division		
Sawbridgeworth Town	3-1	Basildon United
Gavin Cockman 22, 63	Att.41	Alfie Lindfield 34
George Pullen 50		

League Challenge Cup – 3 <sup>rd</sup> Round		
Takeley	2-1	Hullbridge Sports
Charlie Cole 3	Att.56	Jimmy Cox 40
Jason Todd 24		

Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2017

Premier Division		
Ilford	3-1	Waltham Forest
Karolis Atutis 5	Att.64	Pelummy Martin 31
Glen Warwick 74		
Lindispho Mtyanda 87		

Gordon Brasted Memorial Trophy – 3 <sup>rd</sup> Round		
Eton Manor	3-3	West Essex
Joshua Sykes (2)	Att.25	Michael Mignot (2)
Michael Castle (1)		og
<i>Eton Manor Won 5-4 on penalties</i>		

**Congratulations to Stansted FC Reserves who become our first finalists of the season reaching the Reserve Shield Final with a 4-0 win over last season's finalists Hullbridge Sports Reserves.**



Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2017

Premier Division		
Enfield 1893	1-2	Sawbridgeworth Town
Jayden Hocking-Rising 5	Att.73	Matt Frew 23p
		Sam Coe 45

Haringey & Waltham		
Andy Adamoka 35	1-3	Eton Manor
	Att.15	Ben Bradbury 2
		Khadeem Brightly 40, 83

Ilford		
Glen Warwick 1	6-0	Burnham Ramblers
Harry Matthews 26	Att.66	
Luke Thomas 31, 41		
Carl Mullings 42		
Jamie Hart 77		

London Bari		
Joel Appiah 27	1-2	Barking
	Att.32	Steve Willis 43
		Joe Pearman 59

Redbridge		
Brian Moses 2	1-1	Hullbridge Sports
	Att.38	Rob Hodgson 90+2

Southend Manor		
Rhys Fatt 70	1-2	Sporting Bengal United
	Att.35	Shiblu Miah 18
		Oscar Mendez 31

Stansted		
	0-1	Barkingside
	Att.55	David Laird 90

Tower Hamlets		
Trecy Bambo 37	1-3	Basildon United
	Att.48	Nathan Dewberry 48
		Yew Danso 52
		Reece Tranter 86p

Waltham Forest		
	0-3	Takeley
	Att.21	Charlie Cole 56
		Mitchell Das 75
		Alex Martin 84

West Essex		
Daniel Christey 85	1-3	FC Romania
	Att.32	Cosmin Sandu 24
		Andrei Pavel 32
		Florin Pop 90+2

Reserves Division		
Barking	2-1	Waltham Abbey
Redbridge	1-5	Takeley
Sawbridgeworth Town	0-2	Thurrock

Reserve Shield – Semi-Final		
Hullbridge Sports	0-4	Stansted

**\*\*\*\*\* R e m i n d e r \*\*\*\*\***

There is a management meeting on Thursday 16 March 2017 at Harlow Town FC (home of Enfield 1893 FC), commencing at 8pm. The relevant documents were issued via e-mail on 28<sup>th</sup> February – if you require additional copies please contact the League Secretary

## Essex Senior League - Premier Division

(Up to and including Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2017)

		<b>P</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>GD</b>	<b>Pts</b>
1	Barking	34	26	3	5	105	38	67	81
2	FC Romania	37	23	6	8	112	51	61	75
3	Clapton	35	23	4	8	68	42	26	73
4	Southend Manor	37	21	5	11	71	44	27	68
5	Takeley	35	19	8	8	71	46	25	65
6	Sawbridgeworth Town	35	19	8	8	89	65	24	65
7	Ilford	34	18	9	7	76	46	30	63
8	Stansted	36	17	9	10	72	44	28	60
9	Hullbridge Sports	40	15	11	14	66	65	1	56
10	Basildon United	36	16	5	15	72	63	9	53
11	Barkingside	36	17	7	12	71	65	6	52 *
12	Redbridge	37	14	7	16	84	78	6	49
13	Waltham Forest	36	14	7	15	52	53	-1	49
14	Eton Manor	32	13	3	16	66	74	-8	42
15	West Essex	34	12	5	17	51	69	-18	41
16	Wadham Lodge	35	10	8	17	46	67	-21	38
17	London Bari	39	10	7	22	51	86	-35	37
18	Enfield 1893	35	10	6	19	54	87	-33	36
19	Sporting Bengal United	34	8	6	20	53	75	-22	30
20	Tower Hamlets	34	6	6	22	40	75	-35	24
21	Burnham Ramblers	33	5	5	23	37	98	-61	20
22	Haringey & Waltham	38	4	7	27	34	110	-76	19

\* adjustment made

## Essex Senior League - Reserve Division

(Up to and including Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2017)

		<b>P</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>GD</b>	<b>PTS</b>
1	Thurrock	16	13	1	2	58	21	37	40
2	Heybridge Swifts	17	11	4	2	55	25	30	37
3	Sawbridgeworth Town	17	9	3	5	39	22	17	30
4	Barkingside	16	8	5	3	42	31	11	29
5	Waltham Abbey	18	6	4	8	37	30	7	22
6	Takeley	15	7	1	7	33	40	-7	22
7	Redbridge	17	6	2	9	33	39	-6	20
8	AFC Sudbury	17	6	1	10	33	58	-25	19
9	Bishop's Stortford	15	5	2	8	33	43	-10	17
10	Stansted	13	4	2	7	19	26	-7	14
11	Barking	16	4	2	10	25	52	-27	14
12	Hullbridge Sports	17	3	3	11	30	50	-20	12



Essex Senior League Official Website

[www.essexseniorleague.co.uk](http://www.essexseniorleague.co.uk)



Twitter

@essexsenior

## League Leading Scorers

### Premier Division

(Up to and including Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2017)

#### League, League Cup and Gordon Brasted Trophy only

37	James Peagram	Barking
35	Charlie Cole	Takeley
29	Gavin Cockman	Sawbridgeworth Town
25	Jacob Dingli	Redbridge
	Joseph Sykes	Eton Manor
20	Joel Appiah	London Bari
19	Nathan Dewberry	Basildon United
	Michael Mignot	West Essex
	Brian Moses	Redbridge (12 Waltham Forest)
	Florin Pop	FC Romania
18	Omar Delgado	Barking
	David Laird	Barkingside
	Andréi Pavel	FC Romania
16	Reece Cosson	Sawbridgeworth Town
	Michael Hopkins	Southend Manor
15	Ionut Danilu	FC Romania
	Petrit Elbl	Barking

### Reserve Division

(Up to and including 10<sup>th</sup> March 2017)

#### League & League Shield only

19	Jamie Price	Thurrock
16	Solomone Coker	Thurrock
12	George Smith	Heybridge Swifts
11	Lewis Roberts	Takeley (4 Sawbridgeworth)
9	Marley Andrews	Heybridge Swifts
	Jose Espinoza	Barkingside
	George Martin	Waltham Abbey
	Sonny Shilling	Barkingside
8	James Richardson	Sawbridgeworth Town
7	Andrew Fennell	Heybridge Swifts
	Tom Hollanby	Stansted

### Hat-Trick (or More) Heroes – Premier Division

5	Charlie Cole	Haringey & Waltham v <b>Takeley</b> (GBMT)	21 <sup>st</sup> December	
4	Omar Delgado	<b>Barking</b> v Burnham Ramblers	15 <sup>th</sup> October	
	Luke Hornsley	<b>Hullbridge Sports</b> v Haringey & Waltham	2 <sup>nd</sup> August	
	James Peagram	<b>Barking</b> v Burnham Ramblers (LC)	11 <sup>th</sup> January	+1
	Brian Moses	<b>Redbridge</b> v Wadham Lodge	25 <sup>th</sup> February	
3	Reece Barrett	West Essex v <b>Takeley</b>	21 <sup>st</sup> September	
	Joe Bricknell	<b>Eton Manor</b> v Sporting Bengal United	9 <sup>th</sup> November	
	Toby Cleaver	Redbridge v <b>Sawbridgeworth Town</b>	7 <sup>th</sup> January	+2
	Gavin Cockman	<b>Sawbridgeworth Town</b> v Burnham Ramblers	4 <sup>th</sup> March	+1
	Charlie Cole	Tower Hamlets v <b>Takeley</b>	28 <sup>th</sup> January	+3
	Reece Cosson	Redbridge v <b>Sawbridgeworth Town</b> (LC)	31 <sup>st</sup> January	+1
	Ionut Danila	<b>FC Romania</b> v Hullbridge Sports	11 <sup>th</sup> February	+1
	Olmari Delgado	<b>Barking</b> v Haringey & Waltham	7 <sup>th</sup> October	
	Jacob Dingli	<b>Redbridge</b> v West Essex	10 <sup>th</sup> December	+1
	Michael Hopkins	<b>Southend Manor</b> v London Bari	14 <sup>th</sup> January	+1
	Luke Hornsley	Eton Manor v <b>Hullbridge Sports</b>	24 <sup>th</sup> August	
	Charlee Hughes	<b>Burnham Ramblers</b> v Tower Hamlets	7 <sup>th</sup> February	
	Adam Hunt	<b>Redbridge</b> v Burnham Ramblers	30 <sup>th</sup> August	
	Jay Knight	<b>Clapton</b> v Hullbridge Sports	4 <sup>th</sup> March	+1
	David Laird	Sporting Bengal United v <b>Barkingside</b>	21 <sup>st</sup> January	
	Tom Larkin	Sawbridgeworth Town v <b>Stansted</b>	13 <sup>th</sup> December	
	Michael Mignot	Haringey & Waltham v <b>West Essex</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> November	
	Brian Moses	<b>Waltham Forest</b> v Basildon United	30 <sup>th</sup> July	
	James Peagram	<b>Barking</b> v Enfield 1893	21 <sup>st</sup> January	+2
	Florin Pop	<b>FC Romania</b> v Burnham Ramblers	22 <sup>nd</sup> February	
	O'Neal Rowe	London Bari v <b>Tower Hamlets</b>	11 <sup>th</sup> October	
	Vladut Sighiartau	Burnham Ramblers v <b>Wadham Lodge</b> (GBMT)	28 <sup>th</sup> February	
	Joseph Sykes	<b>Eton Manor</b> v Sporting Bengal United	9 <sup>th</sup> November	+2
	Reece Tranter	<b>Basildon United</b> v Burnham Ramblers	23 <sup>rd</sup> August	
	Ben Turner	<b>Ilford</b> v Burnham Ramblers (FAC)	6 <sup>th</sup> August	

## Premier Division Attendances

(Up to and including Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> Match 2017)

### League Matches Only

	Played	Low	High	Average	Total
Clapton	17	17	683	258	4387
Barkingside	15	43	323	87	1303
Basildon United	18	44	113	74	1333
Takeley	16	34	127	65	1043
Enfield 1893	18	30	100	61	1103
Tower Hamlets	17	21	308	60	1027
Redbridge	18	18	142	59	1057
Barking	17	35	109	55	935
Hullbridge Sports	19	34	138	53	1005
Stansted	19	30	138	53	1001
Southend Manor	18	10	91	52	939
Ilford	17	21	108	45	760
Sawbridgeworth Town	18	18	85	41	747
Sporting Bengal United	19	11	100	41	773
Waltham Forest	19	20	159	39	743
Wadham Lodge	16	18	89	33	526
West Essex	17	16	68	32	539
Burnham Ramblers	17	16	55	29	486
FC Romania	19	8	99	27	515
Haringey & Waltham	19	9	32	22	422
Eton Manor	17	2	50	18	309
London Bari	21	4	134	17	350

## Current Form Table

(Up to and including Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2017)

		W	D	L	F	A		
1	FC Romania	6	5	1	0	22	5	W W D W W W
2	Ilford	6	5	0	1	19	5	W W L W W W
3	Barking	6	5	0	1	18	10	W W W L W W
4	Clapton	6	4	1	1	15	8	D W W L W W
5	Sawbridgeworth Town	6	4	1	1	16	10	W D L W W W
6	Wadham Lodge	6	4	1	1	12	8	D W W W L W
7	Takeley	6	4	0	2	14	11	W L W W L W
8	West Essex	6	4	0	2	12	11	W W W L W L
9	Stansted	6	3	2	1	9	2	W W W D D L
10	Sporting Bengal United	6	3	1	2	15	11	W L L D W W
11	Eton Manor	6	3	1	2	10	9	D W L L W W
12	Hullbridge Sports	6	2	2	2	11	11	W L D W L D
13	Waltham Forest	6	2	2	2	6	7	W W D D L L
14	Barkingside	6	4	1	1	16	11	L W D W W W
15	Redbridge	6	2	1	3	14	13	L W L W L D
16	Southend Manor	6	2	1	3	9	8	W D W L L L
17	Basildon United	6	2	1	3	8	10	W L D L L W
18	Enfield 1893	6	2	0	4	10	18	L W W L L L
19	London Bari	6	1	1	4	9	14	L L D W L L
20	Burnham Ramblers	6	0	2	4	7	23	D L L D L L
21	Haringey & Waltham	6	0	1	5	4	15	L L L L D L
22	Tower Hamlets	6	0	1	5	4	17	L L L D L L



## ESSEX SENIOR LEAGUE GORDON BRASTED MEMORIAL TROPHY

Fixtures/Results 2016-2017

### FIRST ROUND

(12 CLUBS)

A	Barking	4-2	<b>Clapton (Holders)</b>
B	Basildon United	2-3	Barkingside
C	London Bari	0-0	West Essex*
D	Stansted	0-2	Ilford
E	Wadham Lodge*	2-2	Sawbridgeworth Town
F	FC Romania	1-5	Southend Manor

### SECOND ROUND

(6 WINNERS plus 10)

1	Hullbridge Sports	1-2	West Essex
2	Waltham Forest	3-0	Tower Hamlets
3	Burnham Ramblers	3-5	Wadham Lodge
4	Barking	3-0	Sporting Bengal United
5	Ilford	1-0	Enfield 1893
6	Southend Manor	1-3	Redbridge
7	Eton Manor	3-1	Barkingside
8	Haringey & Waltham	1-8	Takeley

### THIRD ROUND

9	Eton Manor*	3-3	West Essex
10	Takeley		Ilford
11	Barking		Redbridge
12	Wadham Lodge		Waltham Forest

### SEMI-FINAL

13	Winners of Match 12		Eton Manor
14	Winners of Match 11		Winners of Match 10

### FINAL

15	Winners of Match 14		Winners of Match 13
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\* Won On Penalties



## ESSEX SENIOR LEAGUE CHALLENGE CUP

Fixtures/Results 2016-2017

### FIRST ROUND

(12 CLUBS)

A	Waltham Forest	0-4	Sawbridgeworth Town
B	Clapton	0-1	Hullbridge Sports
C	Ilford	2-0	Southend Manor
D	Enfield 1893*	1-1	West Essex
E	Barking	1-0	Sporting Bengal United
F	Redbridge	4-3	Barkingside

### SECOND ROUND

(6 WINNERS plus 10)

1	Takeley	7-0	Haringey & Waltham
2	Enfield 1893	1-2	Wadham Lodge
3	<b>Basildon United (Holders)</b>	1-0	London Bari
4	Eton Manor		Ilford
5	Stansted	4-4	FC Romania *
6	Tower Hamlets	1-7	Hullbridge Sports
7	Barking	8-1	Burnham Ramblers
8	Redbridge	2-6	Sawbridgeworth Town

### THIRD ROUND

9	Winners of Match 4		FC Romania
10	Sawbridgeworth Town		Barking
11	Takeley	2-1	Hullbridge Sports
12	<b>Basildon United (Holders)</b>		Wadham Lodge

### SEMI-FINAL

13	Winners of Match 10		Winners of Match 9
14	Takeley		Winners of Match 12

### FINAL

15	Winners of Match 13		Winners of Match 14
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\* Won On Penalties



# Forthcoming Fixtures

**Monday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2017**

**Premier Division**

Barkingside v Basildon United

**Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2017**

**Premier Division**

Burnham Ramblers v Clapton  
Takeley v Waltham Forest  
West Essex v Haringey & Waltham

**Reserves Division**

Stansted v Thurrock

**Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2017**

**Premier Division**

Wadham Lodge v Barking

**League Challenge Cup – 2<sup>nd</sup> Round**

Eton Manor v Ilford

**Reserves Division**

Redbridge v Bishop's Stortford

**Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2017**

**Premier Division**

Tower Hamlets v Ilford

**Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2017**

**Premier Division**

Barking v Southend Manor  
Barkingside v Eton Manor  
Basildon United v Waltham Forest  
Clapton FC v West Essex  
FC Romania v Stansted  
Hullbridge Sports v London Bari  
Sporting Bengal United v Burnham Ramblers  
Takeley v Enfield 1893  
Wadham Lodge v Sawbridgeworth Town

**Reserves Division**

Barkingside v Barking  
Hullbridge Sports v Takeley  
Stansted v Bishop's Stortford  
Thurrock v Redbridge  
Heybridge Swifts v Waltham Abbey



**Scott W reporting (@ScottMHC14)**

On a pleasant afternoon at Southchurch Park, high-flying Southend Manor took on the improving Sporting Bengal Utd (pictured above) in an Essex Senior League encounter. The match fizzed into life in the early-going, as Manor had a Dwade James goal ruled out for off-side. Moments later, Bengal forward Oscar Mendes was one-on-one with home 'keeper Lewis Down but missed the target – as it happened it would've been ruled out for off-side regardless.

It was the visitors though who took the lead after just 11 minutes, with winger Shibli Miah slotting past Down. The game fizzled out again for a little bit afterward, though Sporting Bengal were shading it, with more incisive passing than the home side. Bengal doubled their advantage just past the half-hour mark as Mendes beat 'keeper Down to the ball and struck a low, composed finish into the right corner. The visitors had further chances to put the game beyond doubt very soon afterward. Full-back Raul De Silva heading just wide from a corner, before Miah blasted an effort over the bar following a poor clearance.

Manor boss Stuart Marshall rung the changes at half-time, making two changes at the start of the half. Manor forward James blasted an effort over the bar in the opening minutes. Bengal forward Ashaan Siddak blasted an well-struck effort nine minutes into the second half, luckily it was straight at 'keeper Down. Manor gradually got a bit of rhythm going, though a pair of free-kicks from captain Vinny Murphy saw the first saved by visiting 'keeper Denzel Kobia and the second blocked for a corner. From the resulting corner, Murphy himself headed over the bar. Manor did pull one back though with 20 minutes left, returning forward Rhys Fatt headed in from close range after a goal-line clearance from the Bengal defence. Bengal were still pushing for a third, as Siddak had another effort saved by Down. As the game headed into the last ten minutes, Bengal full-back De Silva still powered down the left wing to assist his forwards.

The game ended on a bit of a sour note as in injury-time Manor captain Murphy was given a straight red card for what can politely be described as a bad headed challenge on Mendes. Murphy knew what was coming before the red card came out of referee Kirk Edwards' pocket. Right at the end, Bengal winger Codey Cameron's free-kick crashed into the angle of post & bar as Bengal held out. Bengal's performance merited the win, the 'front four' of Miah, Cameron, Siddak & Mendes played well. By contrast, I know Manor boss Marshall was not happy at his side's performance. Manor stay 4th in the ESL table, though are only 3 points ahead of Takeley in 5th. Bengal stay 19th though pull further clear of fellow Mile End side Tower Hamlets, now 6 points ahead of Hamlets in 20th spot.