

NPRangers Masters v Peringa United Reserves

Nimmo Cup 24/7/2010

The team turned up looking forward to a game of football against a team who play in a division above them. The referee was present for a change, although in hindsight he should have stayed in the changing shed. He was a Muppet.

The weather was good apart from the wind which played a factor in the game, but it was the same for both teams.

Having lost the coin toss, yet again we changed ends and the Masters kicked off for the start of which was to be a very frustrating game. The passing between players was very poor and it looked like we had never played together this season, this in turn led to the opposition scoring the first goal of the game. Missed tackles and a lack of confidence in our abilities was the result of this. No sooner had we gained a slight foothold in the game, we then proceeded to let this slip yet again and Peringa scored again. The coach was not at all impressed and he let us know that we were letting ourselves down. Duly noted we did not pay any attention to this and conceded a third, nice goal but bad marking let the midfielder strike a diagonal shot into the net. The fourth goal came when Pete Swann stood his ground and the opposition player ran into him, the Muppet pointed to the spot and that is when the volcano erupted, Pete gave him a piece of his mind and the Muppet gave him a yellow card for his troubles. Four nil at halftime, and we trooped off the park feeling slightly deflated as the opposition were definitely not any better than us.

A stern dressing down by the captain and another talking to by the coach saw us start the second half in a better frame of mind. No sooner that Dickie Smith taken the field for Ted Gray when he was left alone in the box and slotted the ball into the net. Encouraged by this we applied more pressure and we pulled another back, this time a through ball to Joe Munro and he placed the ball wide of the advancing keeper. This seemed to rattle the opposition and their play became scrappy and they began to make mistakes which led to our third goal. A penalty to the Masters for a push in the box, up stepped Terry Van Dillen to calmly slot the ball into the net, now the game was on and the masters pushed for the equalizer only to be caught out at the back. The linesman flagged for offside and the Muppet ignored him and they scored. Undeterred the masters were back in the game a couple of minutes later, some quick feet and ball skills by Chris Jury had the defence chasing shadows and Chris scored making it 5-4. Enough time for the fightback to still happen only for the Muppet to dash all our hopes he again let play continue from an offside position and the opposition scored again. This brought the Captain of the Masters to ask the Muppet was he blind as everyone saw that the player was offside and whistle should have sounded. Soon after the final whistle blew for fulltime and we were out of the Nimmo's Cup for another season.

Man of the Match went to Greg Hull.