

Ross 4 - 0 Gloucester City D

14/01/2006

Ross complete double over Gloucester

Having blown away the Christmas cobwebs with an excellent away win in a friendly the week before, last Saturday Ross Men's 1st XI entertained Gloucester City D, the team bottom of the Gerrard Hereford and Gloucester League Division Two. Having won the away game 7-0, the Ross squad was quietly confident of victory and eventually ran out comfortable 4-0 winners.

There was a definite symmetry to the two halves. In the first, captain Andy Ridgway struck home a short corner before Phil Evans scored with a fine strike following a flowing move which also involved skilled contributions from midfielders Tom Walton and Sam Warner. In the second, Phil Evans was again on hand to supply the finish after which Andy Ridgway again slotted the ball past the opposition goalkeeper from a short corner.

Credit is due to an energetic young Gloucester side for keeping going despite the game slipping away from them; indeed, their best attacking moves came in the last five minutes of the game. However, the wily old foxes in the Ross defence – James Adamson, Brian Clare, Andy Cross, Edward Peck and Greg Weston – were not to be caught napping and rare Gloucester forays into the Ross box were quickly dealt with by Mitch Greenman. In midfield, Adrian Williams and Steve Evans were also influential and rotating strikers Richard Harbottle and Wilem Haagen were as lively as ever (and the latter could have had a hat-trick).

Phil Evans was voted Brabo Man of the Match as much for his rigour in defence as his creativity in attack and thanks are also due to umpires Pete Hughes and John Setchfield.