

ROSS 2 – 1 CHELTENHAM D

4/2/2006

Ross victory built on a defensive rock.

Yet again Ross walked away with the slenderest margin of victory. However the outcome was never really in doubt as Ross piled on the pressure in last Saturday's Gerrard Hereford and Gloucester League Division Two game against mid table Cheltenham D.

With an inspired defensive master class by the entire Ross backline of James Adamson, Tim Jones, Greg Weston and Andy Cross, their skilful footwork only bettered by Ross' neophyte goalkeeper Mike Nichol. A defeat was never seriously on the cards, the only question was how large the margin of victory.

For the first quarter the midfield were uncharacteristically second best. Tom Walton, John Setchfield, Sam Warner and Phil Evans seemed jaded. However captain, Andy Ridgway, perceived the weakness and moved things around by moving Brian Clare into a holding midfield position to beef things up. They were then able to bring into play their trade mark incisive passes.

The stalemate was broken 10 minutes before half time when Adrian Williams threaded a ball through a mass of defenders. For most of the remainder of the match the Ross forwards kept scratching away at the Cheltenham goal in a futile attempt to extend their lead. Finally Steve Evans made an attack down the left wing before lofting the ball over the out coming keeper.

With the match now settled and the clock just ticking away the final minutes, Cheltenham took full advantage of a penalty corner to score a consolation goal.

As befitting such a solid display the Brabo Man of the Match was shared between Mike Nichol and James Adamson.

Hereford & Glos 2			
Cheltenham C	2	Glos City D	1
Cheltenham D	1	Ross on Wye	2
Cirencester C	3	Newent B	1
Hereford C	0	Winchcombe	2
Lydney A	-	Wotton-u-Edge B	-
Newent A	5	Lansdown C	0

Hereford & Glos 2.	Pl	W	D	L	For	Agn	Diff	Pts
Newent A	16	15	0	1	81	15	66	45
Lydney A	15	13	1	1	72	15	57	40
Ross on Wye	16	12	1	3	53	25	28	37
Cheltenham C	16	10	3	3	64	32	32	33
Winchcombe	16	10	2	4	56	34	22	32
Lansdown C	16	9	1	6	47	30	17	28
Cheltenham D	16	5	1	10	33	51	-18	16
Wotton-u-Edge B	15	5	1	9	22	42	-20	16
Hereford C	15	3	0	12	17	55	-38	9
Newent B	16	2	2	12	27	68	-41	8
Glos City D	16	1	3	12	14	59	-45	6
Cirencester C	15	1	1	13	17	77	-60	4