

ROSS 0 – 2 WINCHCOMBE

3/2/2007

Ross fail to beat their jinx

Many great leaders or teams have a nemesis – a lesser force which they cannot seem to overcome. Think of Napoleon and Wellington or Arsenal and Bolton; for Ross Men's 1st XI, this force is Winchcombe. Meeting once again in the Gerrard Hereford and Gloucester League Division Two last Saturday, Ross never remotely approached their best and went down to a 2-0 defeat in a scrappy contest.

There are some excuses. Ross missed several regulars including Andy Cross suffering a recurrence of his knee injury and James Adamson sidelined with a serious thumb problem. Excellent players often find it hard to play well against poor opposition and both Sam Warner and Adrian Williams looked out of sorts and Richard Harbottle was unable to emulate his much vaunted recent goal scoring achievements for Wales. Ross' short-corner routines frequently misfired, even with the accurate push-outs delivered by Wilem Haagen. More recent additions to the squad – Steve Evans, Kristian Franklin and Andy Evans – struggled to make their mark on the game.

There were some shafts of glory amongst the gloom. Andy Ridgway commanded his D with authority in the Ross goal. Tom Walton, Brian Clare and Greg Weston were their usual reliable selves in defence, ably protected by Edward Peck in the holding midfield role. The return of Phil Evans meant that there were some dazzling runs down the Ross wing. Ultimately, however, Ross were undone by their inability to find the final pass and the clinical finish that would have matched their opponents two excellent strikes from virtually their only chances.

Hereford & Glos 2					
03-Feb-07	Cheltenham C	3	Sherborne	6	
03-Feb-07	Cirencester B	1	Cheltenham D	4	
03-Feb-07	Hereford C	0	Wotton-u-Edge B	0	
03-Feb-07	Lansdown C	7	Glos City D	4	
03-Feb-07	Newent B	2	Cirencester C	0	
03-Feb-07	Winchcombe	2	Ross on Wye	0	

Hereford & Glos 2	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Goals	Goals	A_Win	A_Dra	A_Lose	A_For	A_Agai	Goal Di	Points
Sherborne	16	7	0	1	52	9	8	0	0	45	7	81	45
Cheltenham C	16	6	1	1	36	12	6	1	1	39	8	55	38
Lansdown C	16	6	1	1	43	20	6	0	2	31	21	33	37
Wotton-u-Edge B	16	7	1	0	44	8	2	3	3	18	16	38	31
Ross on Wye	16	5	2	1	26	11	1	3	4	15	17	13	23
Winchcombe	16	3	1	4	20	22	4	1	3	25	24	-1	23
Newent B	16	2	1	5	12	28	4	1	3	19	18	-15	20
Glos City D	16	3	1	4	13	28	3	1	4	20	33	-28	20
Cheltenham D	16	1	1	6	22	28	3	1	4	17	28	-17	14
Hereford C	16	2	2	4	9	29	1	0	7	6	49	-63	11
Cirencester C	16	3	0	5	11	23	0	0	8	4	46	-54	9
Cirencester B	16	1	1	6	14	29	0	1	7	8	35	-42	5