

Ross 2nd XI Vrs Stroud 'B'

Stats

Date	For	Against	Venue	Fixture	SHM MOTM
31/10/09	7	2	away	league	Chris Bargh

Scorers

Name	Chris Bargh	Andy Cross	Richard Harbottle	Willem Haagen	Richard Stewart
Goals	2	2	1	1	1

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Ross triumph on All Hallows eve.

Captain Christopher Chalk successfully navigated through uncharted waters this potentially tricky away fixture against bottom of the league Stroud 'B'. Despite these unaccustomed highs (even impartial observers could see the match was effectively over as a contest by half-time) as usual, in the spirit of the day, Ross still managed to plunge the depths of horror.

It was evident right from the start of play that despite the individual talents of many of the opposition, there was a certain vexatiousness to their team spirit. It did not take long for the Ross mid-field containing Andy Cross, Ben da Cunha, Chris Bargh, Chris Chalk and Charlie Exton to exert their physical dominance, breaking up the oppositions moves and creating chances for the forward line. Within five minutes Richard Stewart had lapsed onto a goal keeping error following a rasping shot from Geraint Morris, to score the first goal. This was followed very shortly by a mazy individual run by Chris Bargh who finished his own good work with an angled drive into the bottom corner. Two up and Seb Sullivan in the Ross goal had not even come close to touching the ball. However this was when the first apparitions started to appear. It was as if the entire mid-field and forward line felt it was their right to score next and simply abandoned their defensive duties, leaving the back line of Tim Jones, Edward Peck, James Adamson and Gareth Hughes dangerously exposed. Stroud took immediate advantage and struck a well worked goal.

Ross shook off their inner demons and rallied to score three further goals before half time. The first was by Richard Harbottle when he took a quick free hit outside the opposition 'D', then strode into the penalty spot with defenders parting like the Red Sea. Then the second was masterly taken by Andrew Cross who flicked a shot past the outstretched arms of the helpless keeper. Finally the third was what can only be described as the goal of the season, Willem Haagen chipped the entire Stroud defence and their (6ft +) keeper from just inside the 'D'.

Despite encouragement from the skipper during the interval, Ross relapsed during most of the second half. Goals from Chris Bargh and Andrew Cross only came after Stroud, for the first time, exerted a period of pressure, resulting in their second goal. During this period of fiendish defence, both Captain Chalk and Charlie Exton were asked to take a long walk, giving both of them time to reflect on their actions with their opposite number, who were asked to leave alongside them.

Tougher matches will certainly lie ahead, starting with Cleevillians next weekend at home. However, for once, Ross 2nds can simply enjoy the victory. Chris Bargh was nominated South Herefordshire Caravans Man of the Match for his tireless running and contribution in front of goal.

Hereford & Glos. Division 2

	Pl	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	Points
1 Gloucester City C	7	6	0	1	34	11	23	18
2 Wotton-u-Edge A	7	5	1	1	18	4	14	16
3 Cirencester C	7	5	1	1	21	10	11	16
4 Cirencester B	7	5	0	2	20	9	11	15
5 Ross-on-Wye A	7	4	2	1	17	8	9	14
6 Cleevillians A	7	4	0	3	18	11	7	12
7 Gloucester City D	7	4	0	3	13	9	4	12
8 Cheltenham D	7	3	1	3	19	26	-7	10
9 Winchcombe	7	3	0	4	20	23	-3	9
10 Lansdown C	7	2	2	3	14	19	-5	8
11 Hereford B	7	2	1	4	7	18	-11	7
12 Sherborne A	7	1	1	5	9	24	-15	4
13 Newent B	7	0	1	6	11	29	-18	1
14 Stroud B	7	0	0	7	10	30	-20	0

This week's Confirmed Results 31/10/09

Cirencester C	8 - 0	Hereford B
Cleevillians A	0 - 3	Gloucester City D
Gloucester City C	13 - 1	Cheltenham D
Lansdown C	1 - 2	Winchcombe
Newent B	1 - 8	Cirencester B
Stroud B	2 - 7	Ross-on-Wye A
Wotton-u-Edge A	7 - 0	Sherborne A

Next week's Matches 07/11/09

Cheltenham D	v	Lansdown C
Cirencester B	v	Stroud B
Gloucester City D	v	Gloucester City C
Ross-on-Wye A	v	Cleevillians A
Sherborne A	v	Hereford B
Winchcombe	v	Cirencester C
Wotton-u-Edge A	v	Newent B