

01/09/05 TT No.32: *Peter Abbott* - Huntingdon Town (UCL)

Last night's visit to Alconbury (Peterborough & District League) proved an interesting new experience and underlined the importance in having a fall-back game.

Very hot, tidy set-up, plenty of players kicking-in early for 6-15pm start, early sight of team line-ups, then asked who the ref was, no problem getting a name, but it then dawned on the home secretary that he hadn't actually seen the ref!

With alarm bells now ringing, telephone calls to the league gleaned the fact that the ref sec had been unable to get hold of the appointed official and believed him to be on holiday, but it slipped his mind to re-appoint another! 2 local refs were called but to no avail and about 6-45pm (now running out of time to complete the game) a "friendly" game kicked-off apparently each half (duration unsure) to be "reffed" by each manager!

At this point I headed to the back-up at Huntingdon Town who won 2-0 in a tight game (v Burton PW), but failed to issue despite promises to other hoppers present! Less of a tidy set up here, large car park, but only a string of portacabins quite a way behind the goal, one of which was the tea bar but had no hot food, and a smallish length of cover on the far side, not really needed despite the threat of thunderstorms.

Having double-checked the Pet & District League website (excellent) this morning, all other games were played and with hindsight I could have headed for last year's champions Whittlesey. Good start to a new league, eh!

03/20