

TT No. 130: Steve Hardy - Saturday 13th April 2019; **AFC Bull Farm v Old Boots**; Midland & Notts Alliance Junior Cup Semi-Final; Kick-Off: 2.00pm; Result: 5-4; Admission: Free; Programme: No; Attendance: 21 H/C

Match two today was just 1000 yards down the same road as the Mansfield Academy and marked my debut in this brand-new league. They are a result of a merger between (wait for it) the Midland Alliance and Notts Alliance last summer and today's cup semi-final was between two clubs in Division Two.

The ground is in Bull Farm Park just outside Pleasley, and is just a mole hill infested, un-rope off pitch, in a public park. I confess I chose this one because I thought Old Boots would score a hatful. How wrong I was. Old Boots won the division two weeks ago, and with the pressure off they lost their first game of the season last Saturday. It seemed they had lost that edge today too as despite taking the lead on the 27th minute they were never able to run away with the game. A mile's offside equaliser was given by the geriatric linesman who wouldn't counter any criticism from the visitors' bench. I was in line with the through ball, and it wasn't just offside, it was yards offside, and this seemed to knock the stuffing out of the Boots.

Anyway, we had goals aplenty after that, with Boots finally making it 4-4 in the 88th minute. With the prospect of extra time looming, Bull Farm pulled out one last attack, and scored the winner in the 90th minute, to the obvious disappointment of the Boots supporters, and the excitement of the home fans.

And with that it was back to doing battle with Sarah the Satnav girl, who once again tried to send me north on the M1, when I really wanted to go south. I also managed to miss my exit on the M1 as I was too busy cheering the result from the *MadStad*, and you could hear Sarah chuckling to herself as I did it!