

**TT No.144: Steve Hardy** - Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> April 2019; Amanah v Wake Green Amateurs B; Birmingham & District League Division One; Kick-Off: 2.30pm; Result: 4-2; Admission/Programme: None; Attendance: 2 (h/c)

As I was already at the Aston University Sports Ground, I didn't have far to go for my second game today. There are umpteen pitches here and I have seen games on a good few of them, but I finally got a bit of luck when today's game of choice was played on a pitch I had not previously visited.

The game was a fairly typical end of season affair, with Amanah playing their final game of the season against Wake Green B who were one place below them in mid table. Wake Green turned up with just 11 players and when one of them was injured early on, they had no subs to bring on, so the lad had to swap with the keeper and play on in agony. Amanah took full advantage of his misfortune to score twice in a minute on 26 and 27 minutes, and the poor lad had to go off, to be replaced by his manager who didn't exactly look in the first flush of youth to me!

Wake Green had tried to play some good stuff despite their problems, and I was pleased to see them get a goal back on 34 minutes, but Amanah soon restored their advantage with two more goals for a 4-1 half time lead. I thought they might pull away in the second half, but not a bit of it and the only goal of the half actually went to the visitors from a blatantly offside effort on 57 minutes. It was no more than they deserved too.

The game was played in an excellent spirit with hardly any fouls and certainly none of the histrionics I had witnessed at the morning match. Amanah have to be the politest team I have ever watched in my favourite league in the world and they were a joy to watch.

04/20