

**TT No.28:** *Steve Hardy* - Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> September 2018; **Living Hope Church United** v Delph Athletic; West Midlands Christian League Division Two; Kick-Off: 10.30 am; Result: 3-2; Admission: Free; Programme: No; Attendance: 6 (hc)

Back on home turf this week and a first look at the West Midlands Christian league for this season too. Living Hope Church are based at St Michaels C of E School in Rowley Regis according to the league web site, but upon arrival I discovered it is now known as the Rowley Learning Academy. Looks an excellent set up too, with, outdoors, a 3G pitch in a cage, plus two grass pitches as well. Indoors, we had a judo tournament in full swing today with several really beefy men and women in action.

On the pitch we were treated to an excellent game of football. It is early days, of course, but this was top v bottom with bottom club Delph much the better team for most of the game in my opinion. In summary, Delph took the lead from a penalty after 13 minutes, and were then awarded a second 3 minutes later. This one smashed against the bar and was cleared and LHC started to get more into the game without actually looking like scoring. In the final minute of the first half though a shot from some distance beat everyone, hit the post and went in, to give LHC an unlikely equaliser and a 1-1 half time score.

The second half was much the same as the first, with Delph regaining the lead after 65 minutes and seemingly on course for a first win of the season. Credit to LHC though, as they equalised on 71 minutes and then scored what proved to be the winner on 76. The final whistle brought much fist pumping from the home team, but I felt for Delph who deserved to get at least a draw out of the game, I thought.

04/20