

Match Report by Steven Kadriu from Bournemouth University

Hamworthy Recreation 3

East Cowes Victoria 1

Hamworthy Recreation win the Velocity Wessex Division One!

With Downton falling to a 2-0 defeat to Cove, rec were crowned champions courtesy of goals from George Deem, Tom Cooper and Alfie Matthews.

On a sunny, Saturday afternoon, it didn't take long for the hosts to take the lead. Deem stepped up to take a free kick around 25 yards out and whipped it delightfully into the top left corner, leaving Alex Ram in goal with no chance.

Rec's lead was double 10 minutes later with another belter of a strike. Cooper found himself in a bit of space on the right 25 yards out. The right back rifled a venomous, dipping shot that went in off the crossbar, with ram rooted to the spot.

After a perfect start, the hosts were dealt an injury blow 23 minutes in. With. Top goal scorer Chris Long was forced to come off with a hamstring injury, an indicator of the busy schedule taking a toll on the players.

Rec were in complete control in the first half and nearly made it three in the 36th minute. A poor clearance from ram presented Rudd with an opportunity, however the winger's attempt was straight at the keeper.

East cowes victoria came out stronger in the second half and managed to half the deficit in the 64th minute. After some nice play, the ball fell nicely to Josh Neale, who lifted the ball tidily over rec keeper Matt Fredericks.

The visitors grew in confidence after the goal, however lacked the cutting edge to find the equaliser. They were punished in the 81st minute. Brad Hill lofted a delightful ball down the left channel to find the run of Matthews, with the number 15 showing wonderful composure to delicately lob the on rushing ram.

Rec were able to close the game out and were delivered the dream news at full time that they were officially champions, after a terrific season. They host Fleetlands on Tuesday whilst East Cowes welcome Toton and Eling.