

Hi Folks,

Welcome to the highly anticipated Match Report for Nth Wgtn Whiskeys vrs Wellington Utd on the 16 May 2009.

It was a classic Wellington day, overcast conditions with strong northerlies. Much to their credit, the Whiskey supporters turned out in strong numbers again to watch the sceptical and greet the players as they enter the pitch.

The artificial cricket pitch near half way offering the best seats in the house.

The regular keeper Chis was not available this week, so the South African was put into goal. Russle had just played in goal for the curtain raiser and was complaining (only as SA's can) about fatigue. However the Noth Wellington players new better than to heed his concerns and effectivly tied him to the goal post for good measure.

The home team had the wind at their backs for the fist period. However good defensive pressure from United, forced the Whiskies to ball played into space behind the visitors defence all to often.

Despite the amount of possession in the first half, Norths created fewer chances than they should have given the wind advantage.

However a certain Frenchman was able put the wind to the best use on a corner he took from the left.

Dave put in a good challenge for the ball causing some indecision in defence, and with the assistance of the wind, the low fast cross when straight into the top near corner.

Mixed celebrations followed when it was realised that yet again Ludo had claimed the goal early in the first half.

However the home fans on the side line had much to be concerned about when late in the first half Dave brought down a united striker deep in the area.

The referee was forced to awarde the penalty which was well executed brining the score to one apiece into the break.

Strong words were had at half time within the home camp. However Norths had the confidence that of usually playing well into the wind....

In the second half Norths looked much better.

Despite the havoc the wind had on players trying to control the ball at close quarters, the burgundy team were able to assert their dominance on the game. Assisted by the wind slowing down play, thus causing players to look for closer and less directly forward parsing options, they playing a more natural possession based game. However from the side line, although it seemed as though a winner was sure to come, as time when by this seemed less and less likely. Even the possibility of a goal against the run of pay was always at the back of our minds as the occasional counter attack looked dangerous.

With only a dozen os so minutes to spare, when it looked like we were destined for a draw, the hard work and positive never-give-up attitude paid dividends as Westie found himself right in front of goal with the ball at his feet. Both of them. Two defenders were both hacking at the ball trying to clear it out, however the West wall did not budge. Eventually the ball squirted out right into the path of Jonny-on-the-spot, the feisty french forward. Ludo clinically put it away bringing his telly for the day to a more respetable 2.

That was how it finnished. 2:1 to the home team.

A good effort and result in dificult conditions.

Still some concerns in the camp for the top goal scoring stricker who has shown a drop in form latley. Although a repeat of his previous weeks effort of only 2 goals, brings hope that his form has hit bottom. So we hope for an improment from him in next weeks game away to Eastborrne.

This weeks match report brought to you by the man-of-the-match, Michael (Micky) Thomas.