

RAF Football Association E-Bulletin

25 Mar 18

MATCH REPORT - ROYAL AIR FORCE SRT V ROYAL NAVY

The RAF SRT concluded their 2018 Inter Services Championships with an away fixture against the Royal Navy at the Victory Stadium in Portsmouth.

As both teams had been beaten comprehensively by the Army, winning the overall championships had gone but both teams were eager to end this year's championships on a high.

Prior to the match starting, a minute's silence was held to remember the tragic loss of RAF engineer, Cpl Jonathan Bayliss from the RAF Aerobatics Team following the awful crash of a Red Arrow the previous day at RAF Valley.



The game started with the Navy kicking off on a mild evening at HMS Temeraire, with all match officials being provided by the Army.

The RAF set their stall out early days enjoying the majority of possession and were looking the most likely of the two sides to take the lead. This policy came to fruition after 12 minutes with a

Harbottle firing a looping shot from outside the box. The shot taking a small deflection past Cross in the RN goal to make it **1-0 to the RAF**.

Harbottle continued to cause the RN trouble on the left wing and his run on the 15th minute was cynically cut short with a foul just outside the box. The resulting free kick was taken by Webb but his effort was well saved by Cross in the RN goal.

As the half continued, the RN got more into the match and their first effort came after 39 minutes but Sneddon's long-range strike did not trouble Adams in the RAF goal as it fired over the bar.

However, one minute later, Earl's long-range effort flew past Adams for the equalising goal for the RN.



RN 1 RAF 1.

The RAF poured forward before half time and were so unlucky to not recapture the lead in first half added time with Campbell's effort looking like a certain goal only for the RN to clear off the line in what can only be described as an amazing clearance.

Half Time – Royal Navy 1 Royal Air Force 1



The second half started with a very different RN approach who were starting to dominate the play and were taking the game to the RAF. The game was starting to be stretched. This paid off for the RN on the 53rd minute with a driving run by the RN into the RAF box brought upon a poor challenge with the referee having no choice to award a penalty to the RN. Booker stepped forward and calmly slotted home into the left-hand side of the net to make it **2-1 to the RN.**

Six minutes later the RN extended their lead against the RAF with McKenzie running clear of the RAF defence for a one on one with Adams in the RAF goal. McKenzie kept his composure to fire home the RNs third goal of the night. **3-1 to the RN.**



As time was running out the RAF pressed forward trying to get back into the match and this paid dividend on the 84th minute with Norton's low strike firing home, **3-2 to the RN.** The RAF continued to press forward but were caught on the counter attack, coupled with a controversial and dubious hand-ball the RN surged forward and fired past Adams to score their fourth. **4-2 to the RN**

Full Time – Royal Navy 4 Royal Air Force 2

RAF Team

Cpl Adams, LCpl Morris, SAC Harbottle, Sgt Evans, SAC Dixon, SAC Pain, Cpl Atkinson, Cpl Claisse, Cpl Campbell, Cpl Webb, Cpl Woodhouse **Subs** – SAC Greenhalgh, SAC Carr, SAC Williams, SAC Greenwood, Cpl Norton

The next SRT fixture will take place on Tuesday 17th April and is an away fixture against Airbus UK Broughton. This fixture will kick off at 1945hrs and will take place at Hollingsworth Group Stadium.

Sqn Ldr Paul Harrap
SRT Comms Lead

RAF FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION SPONSORS



The charity that supports the RAF family



THALES



SecureCloud+

