

Developing skills of Comprehension

No win in the Battle of the Rovers

Shamrock Rovers arrived at the Showgrounds having only lost once in their previous five games, their hosts also shared that very same statistic of one loss in five. With both teams in such form this was never going to be a classic but there were chances throughout the first half Blanchard and Miele having efforts which flew off target before Sligo's Estonian international Sander Puri struck in the 28th minute with his third goal for the Bit O' Red.

A delightful ball from Gary Boylan was swung over from the right and Puri powered it into the net beyond the reaches of Barry Murphy. A clash of heads a few minutes later, following another cross from Boylan, saw both Gavin Brennan and John Russell receiving treatment before the Shamrock Rovers midfielder picked up a yellow card for a foul on Gavin Peers just before half time. During the break, new signing Jennison Myrie- Williams was introduced to the home crowd and he should be fit to make his debut next week at Dundalk.

The second half began with a flourish as both teams missed good opportunities to score – Danny North and John Russell the respective culprits. However it wasn't long before the Tallaght side equalised in the 58th minute courtesy of a superb free kick from Gary McCabe which found the corner of Richard Brush's net. Sligo didn't take this lying down and created a couple of chances for Dinny Corcoran which failed to trouble Murphy, while the netminder did well to snuff out the danger from a Gavin Peers header.

Recent signing Anthony Elding came on in a double substitution with Morten Nielsen in the 71st minute while Damien Duff was taken off 78 minutes into his first league start. The Hoops closed out the game the stronger as an effort from Gary McCabe flew wide while substitutes McCabe and Cregg were both denied by Richard Brush as the hosts held on for a precious point in the wind and rain.

Sligo Rovers: Richard Brush, Gary Boylan, Alan Keane, Gavin Peers, Regan Donelon, David Cawley, Sander Puri, John Russell (Ward 87), Raffaele Cretaro (Elding 71) Jason Hughes, Dinny Corcoran (Nielsen 71).

Subs not used: Ryan Coulter, Jake Dykes, Ruairi Keating, Rob Lehane.

Booked: Peers (18), Russell (18), Cawley (68).

Shamrock Rovers: Barry Murphy, Simon Madden, Conor Kenna, David Webster, Luke Byrne, Gary McCabe, Maxime Blanchard (Cregg 58), Brandon Miele, Gavin Brennan, Damien Duff (McCaffrey 78), Danny North (Ryan Brennan 82).

Subs not used: Craig Hyland, David O'Connor, Cian Kavanagh, Dylan Kavanagh. **Booked:** G. Brennan (42).

Referee: Derek Tomney. **Attendance:** 2,178

Focusing on skills of: (a) Scanning (b) Determining Importance (c) Summarising

Recall Questions (Scanning- looking for key words)

1. Name the two teams who played.

2. Who won and by how many goals?

3. How many people watched the game?

4. Who was the referee?

Determining Importance (The main ideas of the text)

5. Underline or highlight the five most important pieces of information in the text.

Inference (reading between the lines-there is no wrong answer)

6. In which month of the year was this game played? _____

7. Why do you think this? _____

Summarising (Retelling the most important parts of the text in your own words)

8. Write a short summary of the article on another page. (Use the answers from number 5 to help you)

Extension/Additional Activities

Written- Suggest an alternative title for the piece- Why did you choose this title?

Oral Work (Incorporating Drama)- Work in pairs to 'interview' the winning and losing managers after the game. The questions may also be written down in an extra writing activity

Cross Curricular Linkage- Geography

Locate both teams' home grounds on a map and trace the route between them- look at all the counties on the route and note any towns or landmarks in each.

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