

HotScots Football Club Match Report



Haddington Select 5 – 1 HotScots FC

**Somewhere near Aubigny Sports Centre, Kick Off 2 p.m.
Sunday 24th February 2008**

Following a 9 – 0 drubbing only 5 weeks ago, the HotScots arrived pitch-side determined to give a far better account of themselves & build on their 1st victory the previous weekend over an English side.

The change in the visitors was apparent immediately. The HotScots got off to a flying start, and after a mere 5 minutes or so, a clever run from Paul ended in him being upended in the penalty box. JP Clarke stepped up to blast the ball past 'keeper Kenny.

HADDINGTON SELECT 0 – 1 HOTSCOTS FC

Having taken a surprise lead, the HotScots had a 2nd penalty appeal minutes later when JP Clarke was clear through only to be brought down by the goalkeeper, but this time the referee was unconvinced.

Haddington returned to their usual passing game, and began to dominate possession. After knocking on the door a few times, they finally earned an arguable penalty when the HotScots' left-back, Stevie, brought down the Haddington winger on around 30 minutes. Again, the resultant spot-kick was dispatched clinically.

HADDINGTON SELECT 1 – 1 HOTSCOTS FC

A fairly even & end-to-end 15 minutes ensued with an effort from the HotScots' Captain, Stuart Sutherland, hitting the crossbar. Nevertheless, Haddington's crisp passing eventually paid off & they managed to grab a 2nd goal towards the end of the 1st half.

HALF-TIME:

HADDINGTON SELECT 2 – 1 HOTSCOTS FC

Once again, several substitutes were introduced during the break, & the HotScots resorted to a 4-4-2 formation in contrast to their 1st half 4-5-1.

As the 2nd half went on, Haddington settled further into their passing game, & their exceptional teamwork began to shape the game.

An early goal soon after half-time exposed the HotScots' defence's offside trap, and another soon followed to make it 4 – 1 to the home side. Despite the scoreline, the HotScots continued to battle on & the defence played admirably with some exceptional saves from Darren Girdwood in his goalkeeping debut, & a goal-line clearance from right-back Kevin Rowe.

As the HotScots pushed on to get back into the game, their goal became exposed & Haddington eventually grabbed a 5th to win comfortably.

FINAL SCORE:

HADDINGTON SELECT 5 – 1 HOTSCOTS FC

Chairman & stand-in Manager, Kevin Rowe, said: "Although the scoreline is one-sided, this is a staggering difference from our 1st game only 5 weeks ago. As an all-inclusive club, we have adopted a policy of playing our 1st eleven for the 1st half & then bringing on all our substitutes for the 2nd. Considering that we were only 2 – 1 down at half-time in a very close contest, this is a fantastic achievement compared to being 5 – 0 down last time. There was even a relative improvement in the 2nd half, so overall an awful lot of progress has been made in a very short space of time."

“We have now established this as a regular monthly fixture, so we can continue to check our progress & learn a lot from a team who use the ball very cleverly & to great effect. The next game will be on our home patch, so I’ll look for a further improvement, & perhaps it will prove 3rd time lucky once again.”

One of the Haddington Select players commented afterwards: “It is obvious that the HotScots have really come on in leaps & bounds since our first game. They really gave us a good run for our money, particularly in the 1st half, & regardless of the score, they again battled right on until the final whistle.”

HotScots’ Man of the Match: ??????????

HotScots’ Scorers: JP Clarke (5 (pen))