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Lee Valley 4 Slough 13

LEE VALLEY began their run of home matches with a crushing defeat against second-placed Slough on Saturday.

Shortly after the face-off Slough showed their intent with three shots on goal, all three attempts comfortably turned away by Lions' netminder, Ruth Cattell. It signalled the theme of the night when at two minutes 24 seconds, Chris Beauclerk opened the Jets' account.

Free-scoring Zoran Kozic stamped his mark at 16.18 with his opener, followed by a quick goal moments later from Matt Lawday to see the Lions trail at the end of the first period 3-1.

The second period looked bleak for the Lions who seemed unable to organise a consistent attack or to clear over the blue line to repcl the Jets' attention on the Lions' goal. The Jets strung together a series of goals taking their end of period total to eight but the Lions had no response.

Lions' netminder Cattell was switched after the Jets' sixth goal, allowing George Alley to take over the duties.

The period was remarkable only for short fisticuffs at 39.52 that had the Jets' Sam Shone in the penalty box serving 2+2 for roughing alongside Dan Rose, already in the box on a tripping call.

They were then joined by Ollie Shone, in for 2+10, while Lions' Phillip Carson received 2+2 for roughing.

Things looked good for the Lions at the start of the third period starting with a five on three advantage that reduced to a five on four after 90 seconds.

Lions could only get one shot on Alec Field in the Jets' net. Blair Dubyk got a second goal for the

Blair Dubyk got a second goal for the Lions assisted by Joe Berry and Timothy Johnston which lifted the crowd somewhat and put some life back into the match, but the Jets quickly broke away and Jamie Milton replied six minutes later with a ninth goal for the visitors.

Berry slotted a third in the net from a pass from Dubyk and Gary Dodds so with nine minutes left, there seemed to be a chance that the Lions could recover and cut the deficit. This hope was dashed by ex-Lion Stas Prokofiev, who whipped in the 10th for the Jets at 55.45.

Callum Mathieson responded with the fourth Lions goal 12 seconds later from a Richard Hodge pass, but the Jets sealed the win with three more goals in the dying minutes of the game.

Goal 13 came at the 60th minute, right on the sound of the buzzer, definitely unlucky for the Lions.

The Lions look forward to the next few weeks' successive home matches, the first being on 15 January against Streatham Bru-