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Hounds hit back

12 January 2006

Haringey Greyhounds 3

Lea Valley Lions 2

HARINGEY recovered from a slow start to begin 2006 with a close win against their local rivals at Alexandra Palace.

The hosts were missing the injured John Dennis and Joe Reynolds plus long-term casualty Tom Boney for this English National League clash.

And the game started with Lee Valley quickest out of the blocks, as they out-skated the Greyhounds and camped in the home outfit's defensive zone.

Their early pressure failed to penetrate the Haringey rearguard, however, and it was the hosts who went 1-0 up when David Carr set up Jamie Hirst to score after the Lions' defence failed to clear.

The Greyhounds finally grabbed their second when former Lee Valley player Danny Cox fired home from the blue line against his former club.

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The second period started badly for the Greyhounds as Lithuanian Romanas Fedotovas scored a fine solo effort to put the visitors back in the game.

Then, after a melee in front of the Lee Valley net, Lions' Mark Swaine was given a game penalty for punching Haringey's Liam Doyle whilst he was on the floor and the latter was given a 2+2 roughing penalty for his trouble.

Soon after, Haringey's Craig Metcalf put the puck in to the roof of Lee Valley's net, only for the referee to rule the goal out claiming that it had hit the crossbar.

The referee then infuriated the Greyhounds again when a perfectly good hit by David Carr on Lions frontman Rob Courtman was penalised with a two-minute roughing penalty.

Thankfully though, the Greyhounds extended their lead just before the break with Ricky Rutherford firing a beautiful wrist shot from the slot into the top corner of Lee Valley's goal.

Yet again the Lions started the period stronger and this time managed to score to make it 3-2 through Nicky Braithwaite.

The game was suddenly back on and, with both sets of fans banging drums and getting behind their teams,

practical, cars to suit all.

the intensity on the ice increased.

After another late dangerous hit by Lions' Kwabina

Opong Addai went unpunished, Hounds' Adam

Hyman could contain his frustration no longer.

After being sent to the bin for a 10-minute misconduct

penalty, he then continued a verbal tirade on the




referee and was sent to the changing rooms.

The last two minutes were played at a frantic pace as

Lee Valley pushed for an equaliser, but the

Greyhounds held firm to start the year with two

valuable points.

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