

Elite team in three finals over weekend

Contributed by Nigel Edgecombe
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Lyne Elite make three Tournament finals in one weekend. The Elite squad entered three Tournaments this weekend and made all three finals, yes three and non of the plates all Cups!! The first on the Saturday hosted by Woodley Hammers, a very well organised 6-a-side Tournaments at the Maidenhead University of Agriculture. The Squad: Edge, Shorty, Plut, Airz, J.B. Bert, Cal and A.J. The Elite opening League match was against Ashridge Park Rangers in which Lyne started played some fantastic football and come out victors winning 2-0. The second was against a very strong team from the hosts, Woodley Hammers in which the Elite team could only manage a draw. The third was against a very physical Sandhurst team, but they picked on the wrong team on this day with the Lyne winning 3-0. The fourth was against Shiplake Whites, who proved no competition for a very strong Elite team winning 3-1. Our last group stage match was against Woodley Saints which once again the Lyne mob matched on and won 3-0. So a round up of the League stages is 11 goals for and only 1 against which won the Elite team the League stages. Quarter finals Lyne got local rivals Staines Town who proved to be a tough nut to crack with the Elite team only winning 1-0. Semi finals The Elite team got Woodley Town Kestrels who proved to be a well balanced side in the group stages, but once again the Lyne posse was far to strong winning 3-0. The final Elite verses Whitegrove, a match which on paper should be won by the Elite team all day long but Whitegrove had a will to win which none of us expected and deservedly won 2-1 leaving the Elite team with a runners up medal and the respect Lyne F.C play great football. Our second Tournament of the weekend was on the Sunday morning, Farncombe Youth. The Squad : Edge, Shorty, Scott, Shaun, Bert, J.B and Ish. Our opening match was against Byfleet Boys in which the Elite team dominated and came out victorious winning 2-0. Our second match was against Tongham Youth which once again was over powered by a very strong Elite team, Elite win 3-1. The third match was against a very competitive Balham Blazers in which both sides gave a creditable performance which ended in a 0-0 draw. That completed the group stages and the Elite team ended up top of the pile being group winners. The quarter final The host team Farncombe Youth verses Lyne Elite, and once again the Lyne team won convincingly 2-0. The Semi final Balham Blazers strongest team, out of the three they entered. Lyne started the strongest but the Balham boys are some team with great passing and movement. This match could have gone either way with both teams showing a great passion for the game which went the full distance of normal time and extra time to end up at penalties. The Elite team ended up winning 4-3 on penalties, but great credit must go to Balham for a fantastic match. The Final Guildford City Tigers our friendly rivals. What a fantastic match which once again went the distance of normal time and extra time. Both teams had given everything in a hard fought final, but it had to come down to penalties. Guildford with great credit ended up the victorious team beating the Elite team 3-1 in the penalty shoot out and the Lyne team ended up runners up once more. My thanks to the Guildford City mob for supplying beverages to me and Ian after the match, You where lucky this time!! Our last Tournament of the weekend was on the Sunday afternoon at N.P.L. The Squad : Jagz, Plut, Airz, Cal, A.J, Sanj, Ash. Our first match was against a strong Hook Youth side and untypical of Lyne Elite we actually started the tournament well with a convincing 2-0 win. However whether it was the side effects of some of the boys having played yesterday or just a bit of complacency we then went on a run of three draws against sides we would normally expect to beat with a 1-1 with NPL C, 1-1 with St John's and 0-0 against to be fair, what was a very strong Wolves B side. So that left us with one option only - win the last game convincingly. So after a bit of refocussing by the coaches, we went and soundly beat Wolves NPL C 4-0 to qualify for the semi-finals. After the rather half paced qualifying games, the semi-final was a cracking game, Lyne were at their best and won comfortably 3-0 against Wolves A, who played their part in making it such a competitive game. This lead to a final against Bookham Colts, in which we after having led 1-0 for most of the game, had to settle for a 1-1 draw and nerve racking penalties. However our shooting boots were deadly accurate and having scored all five of our penalties against Bookham's four, we ran out, in the end, worthy tournament winners.

Our stats for the weekend read as follows:

Played 21 Won 14 Drew 5 Lost 2 Goals for 36 Goals against 9

A great weekend of football in which the Elite team showed what they can do!!

The Elite team are still looking for players, please contact Nigel on : nigel@lynefc.co.uk

A great weekend for the Elite team