

LIONS IN SEVEN GOAL HEAVEN!



LIONS' Romanas Fedotovas (left) watched by netminder Glen Jackson. Picture: Julianne Bonner.

Lee Valley Lions 7, Romford Spitfires 1
LIONS have really got the winning habit. Following last week's first league success, when they overcame Oxford City All Stars 7-5, this time they overpowered local rivals Romford Spitfires in much more emphatic fashion.

At the Spitfires' helm was last season's Lions manager Pete Osborn and their squad contained a number of ex-Lions, including new capture Jon Beckett, who played for the original Lions.

Romford's only league point to date had been gained by default when their opponents fielded an unregistered player.

It was soon obvious that Lee Valley would dominate. Over-enthusiastic refereeing meant that six penalties had been called before Paul O'Neill had scored Lions' first on a powerplay on 06:40, the

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assists going to James Hatfull and Mark Saunders.

Lions were finding it easy to regain possess and Andrezej Maslak demonstrated his enviable agility to score the second from a seemingly impossible angle at 12:13. Joe Berry and Rob Courtman were accredited with the assists.

At the end of the first period 2-0 was still the score but a flurry of penalties saw Spitfires have, at one time, four players in the sinbin. Among the penalties, Lions had both Maslak and O'Neill ordered off the ice.

Lions then hit their visitors with two goals in quick succession, Richard Hodge seized on a powerplay to slot the puck past Clements, assisted by Nicky Braithwaite and then another powerplay was netted by Andy Watt with assistance from Scott Beeson.

Beeson was firing on all cylinders and he sped away to blast home an unstoppable fifth with the time on 36:41. O'Neill assisted with that one and then Beeson repeated the dose just three minutes on, Romanas Fedotovas and Watt providing the opening.

Just when Lions' netminder Glen Jackson thought he might keep a second shut-out in successive weeks, a defensive blip allowed ex-Lion Dan Sampson through for Spitfires' sole goal to make it 6-1.

Fedotovas finished off the scoring at 41:33, assisted by O'Neill and the home side coasted through the final 20 minutes, although the spate of penalties, on both sides, went unabated.

Lions' next home game is on Saturday week (Nov 11) when they entertain Peterborough Islanders. Face-off is 5.30pm and free tickets are available at www.leevalleylions.co.uk.