

Two bad for under-strength Lions

THERE was double disappointment for the Lee Valley Lions as they suffered defeats against Invicta Dynamos and the Swindon ENIHL Wildcats.

On Saturday the Lions entertained high-flying Invicta Dynamos, with both Richard Hodge and Andrzej Maslak missing from their line-up.

The first period saw the hosts step up to the mark and match their opposition remarkably well.

Between the pipes was 17-year-old Glen Jackson who blocked several attacks before conceding a power-play goal to Damien Welch at 14:31.

Jackson continued to ward off shots, keeping the scoreline to just 0-1 when the buzzer sounded.

An injury to Jackson at the start of the second period seemed to upset the Lions, and with replacement Stefan Nubert unable to warm up he faced a baptism of fire and let in two goals from two shots.

A controversially-awarded penalty shot was then given against Romanas Fedotovas, which was scored by Stuart Low to put the Dynamos 4-0 up. This event proved to be a pivotal point in the game as the Lions ran out of enthusiasm.

Goals flowed into Nubert's net in quick succession, four of which were scored on powerplay opportunities.

There was a sigh of relief when the final period buzzer sounded, with the score a disastrous 11-0 to the visitors.

Lee Valley put in a much-improved performance at Swindon on Sunday, although it wasn't enough to prevent them from slipping to a narrow 3-2 loss.

A strongly-contested encounter between the two teams earlier in the season had resulted in a 7-7 draw, but with players absent through injury and others playing for the U19s the Lions mustered only 13 players including just one netminder.

The first period went to plan with Scott Beeson opening the scoring at 04:20 with a swift slapshot that flew past the glove of Jamie Thompson and hit the top corner of the net.

Lions continued to be the more forceful side and struck again at 13:49 with an unassisted goal from Michael Jacobs.

The second period was a different story though with Scott Gough and Neil Rouse levelling things up.

Swindon's third goal came at 49:04 on a delayed penalty against James Hatfull, which in the end proved good enough to take the points.

Lee Valley will now be hoping to gain revenge when they travel to the Invicta Dynamos on Sunday.



PRIDE OF THE LIONS: Glen Jackson and Andy Watt in action against Invicta Dynamos (Photo: Julianne Bonner)

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failing to pay fines on time, but found enough cash to expose their lenders at

dropping into the relegation zone. Dixon was likely and

it 3-2, but Sang added his second to give the home side a deserved win.