

UCD AFC broke DIT's resistance in the second half to record a 2-0 win.



UCD AFC took their first steps in this year's Colleges and Universities League notching up a 2-0 win and securing three points in the process. DIT were the opposition and in truth UCD dominated the game from start to finish and probably should have had more than the two goals they did manage. Tyrone McNelis and Samir Belhout were on target, but they had to wait until the second half to make the breakthrough.

The game began with a number of mistakes from both sides as they struggled to get use to the difficult playing surface. When they settled, the UCD Students did so in style and settled into a fine passing rhythm, fit for a much finer pitch. Paul Corry and James Timmons controlled the midfield with the latter starting this college game more than ten years after he started his first. Such is his competitive spirit and incredible fitness levels Timmons is a credit to himself as he gave DIT little time on the ball in defence and burst forward at the opportune moment in attack.

UCD's front three, Robbie Benson, Belhout and McNelis were a handful from the first whistle and DIT were struggling to contain them. Chances came and went without any real threat to the DIT goal and the score remained goalless as the first half drew to a close.

Danny Fallon and Stephen Doyle combined with great effect down the right hand side in the first half and they took this form into the second period. It was this combination that led to the first UCD goal. Doyle was sprung loose down the right and his pace pulled him away from his flailing marker. With fresh grass in front of him, Doyle swung a ball into the box, begging McNelis to do the needfull. McNelis duely obliged and UCD had the lead they deserved.

UCD began to pummell DIT into submission but they managed to stand firm. Corry, Benson and Sexton all went close but the score remained at 1-0 with fifteen minutes left in the game. Samir Belhout had worked tirelessly in attack all game long and he was about to get his reward. Stephen Doyle again broke loose on the flank and cracked a ball into the box. Belhout was waiting to smash it home and smash it home he did.

With more than ten minutes remaining on the clock UCD played their way through the game, holding onto possession and dragging their opposition from one side of the field to the other.

UCD AFC: McGinley, Fallon, C O'Brolchain, O'Connor, Langtry, Doyle, Timmons (Whelan), Corry, McNelis (Sexton), Benson (Murray), Belhout (B O'Brolchain)