

Saheed Ogunfowora was the star of the show as UCD beat Malahide United.



UCD AFC's Leinster Senior League Saturday Major 1A side came from behind to register an impressive 5-1 victory away to Malahide United. Having conceded early in the first half, The Students were made to battle their way back into the game and eventually did this late in the second half. Two goals from Saheed Ogunfowora and Stiofain Sexton, topped off by a Brian O'Brolchain effort game UCD all three points as the race for the title hots up.

UCD began the game on the back foot as the home side settled quickly on their home surface. The huge sideways slant was an obstacle The Students would have to adapt to quickly if they were to prosper and after ten minutes it looked as if it was going to be a long afternoon. Malahide controlled the opening exchanges and sprung an attack from left back to break the deadlock. The ball travelled to the opposite side of the field finding the Malahide right winger in space and beyond the UCD defence, he advanced and beat Barber in the UCD goal.

UCD struggled through the majority of the first half and were fortunate to regain parity before the break. With ten minutes remaining in the first half Saheed Ogunfowora popped up to equalise against the run of play. A UCD attack was kept alive as the ball bounced in the Malahide box and Ogunfowora was on hand to stab home from close range.

As the second half began it was clear that UCD had taken on board the encouraging words offered at half time and looked determined to play their way back into the game. With the conditions mastered UCD were by far the superior team but could not find a breakthrough, until deep into the second half, when it came it blew the opposition away.

UCD ended the game four goals ahead of their hosts and the simplest of goals they were too. Brian McDonald showed why he has become so highly regarded in UCD with some tricky wing play bringing him by his opposite number. A quick look up and a superb ball into the box found Brian O'Brolchain unmarked. UCD's hitman made no mistake and The Students had a lead they were not prepared to give up.

It was Ogunfowora's turn next to show what he could do on the wing, skipping past his full back and delivering an inviting ball into the box. Stiofain Sexton arrived on time to knock the ball past the keeper. It was provider turned scorer next as Ogunfowora smashed a volley in from the edge of the box and UCD's lead was stretched to 3 goals. Three became four just before the end of the 90 minutes as Ogunfowora again set up Sexton for the same outcome. It was a long time coming but UCD's 5-1 was well deserved following a huge battle to gain superiority against resolute opponents.

UCD AFC: Barber, Molumby, Dent, Keogh, Wright, Ogunfowora, Hanley (McErlane), Fallon, McDonald, Brian O'Brolchain (Culleton), Sexton