

**Monday night saw our LSL Sat Major 1B team bring their season to a close with a bang against promotion rivals Arklow Town. After taking a three goal lead after just sixteen minutes they were determined to keep the pressure up and added a further six goals before the end to run away comfortable 9-1 winners.**



With kick off delayed for ten minutes UCD caught their opponents napping inside three minutes as Stephen Doughan played Brian O'Brolchain through and he calmly slotted it past the onrushing goalkeeper.

It wasn't long before Derek Swan was given the chance to extend our lead from the penalty spot after Brian O'Brolchain was taken down by the goalkeeper, and he duly obliged with a delicate chip into the corner.

Just seconds after Arklow restarted, Derek Swan was on hand again as he took the ball down on his knee and rifled a 30 yard volley into the top corner to stun the Arklow defence as they watched on.

Despite the comfortable lead UCD were in no mood to let up, and it wasn't long before Hayden Turner added our fourth of the game as he arrived late in the box to volley home a Kieran Bowers corner!

UCD continued to press high and Brian O'Brolchain was unlucky not to further extend our lead after Stephen Doughan played him through again only for the keeper to deny him with a great

save.

Our high intensity play was rewarded soon after however, when John Dineen pressed the full back high up the pitch and won the ball back before picking out Stephen Doughan with a brilliant cut back to give him the simplest of finishes.

With half time approaching, Derek Swan was unlucky not to complete his hat trick when he just couldn't get enough on Brian O'Brolchain's cross at the back post and it went into the side netting.

UCD started the second half as they finished the first and looked to push on in search of more goals. Neal Hickey broke down the left wing and his brilliant cross looked to have found Derek Swan at the back post however brilliant defending just cut it out before he could get a touch on it.

Half time substitute Mark Boland didn't take long to get on the scoresheet, and added our sixth of the night with a simple finish after John Dineen's shot was saved by the keeper.

Soon after it was another substitute's turn to get on the scoresheet as a great ball from Mark Boland picked out Stephen Doughan on the right wing and his cross found Niall Daly unmarked in the six yard box to tap it home.

Determined not to let it all go our way Arklow pulled one back soon after a shot from 30 yards was deflected into the bottom corner to give Gavin Sheridan in the UCD goal no chance.

Hayden Turner then grabbed his second, and our eighth of the night after he found himself unmarked in the box and he calmly chipped it over the on rushing keeper.

Having already made their our three substitutes we were then forced to play out the final fifteen minutes with 10 men after Stephen Doughan was forced off with an injury. Determined not to let

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that impact our performance we pushed on in search on more goals, with Neal Hickey, Niall Daly and Mark Boland all going close. And with just over five minutes remaining Niall Daly added his second of the night with a brilliant finish after holding off the defender after Mark Boland had played him through.

All in all it was a brilliant result to mark a great season for our fresher's side which saw them claim the Harding Cup in February and still maintain an outside chance of promotion in the league.

**UCD Team:** Gavin Sheridan, Tristan Dent, Conor Butler, Hugh Davey, Steve Dillon, Hayden Turner, John Dineen, Stephen Doughan, Derek Swan, Kieran Bowers, Brian O'Brolchain

**UCD Subs:** Neal Hickey for Kieran Bowers (41'), Mark Boland for Brian O'Brolchain (HT), Niall Daly for Derek Swan (59')

**Unused Subs:** Abdel Babiker, Richard Jeffers, Ross Beirne

**Scorers:** Derek Swan x 2, Niall Daly x 2, Hayden Turner x 2, Brian O'Brolchain, Stephen Doughan, Mark Boland

**Man of the match:** Steve Dillon - It was a brilliant captains performance as he led by example from the heart of our defence, cancelling out any threat posed by Arklow and was the start of most of our attacks