

EAGLES 14-1 LETCHWORTH GC EAGLES ORANGE

AT LEAST the referee agreed with the touchline verdict on the score this time.

And Eagles racked up another hatful of goals despite switching off for a while in the second half.

In some ways this was a better performance than the thrashing of Bedwell Rangers Reds, partly because Letchworth were a better team but mainly because much of the football, and some of the goals, were excellent.

Starting with the opener in the third minute, when Kian Harness applied a brilliant first-time finish to Anthony Georgiou's corner.

Soon afterwards Jack Piggott's man-of-the-match performance swung into gear as he teed up Luca Winterton for the first of his hat-trick.

For the next 20 minutes, Letchworth competed well but without ever really threatening to reduce the arrears.

And the deficit became a gulf in a 15-minute purple patch for the Eagles.

Harness made the most of Logan Downie's great cross and then Piggott played a one-two to set up Cameron King for number four.

Then it was Sam Fage's turn to benefit from Piggott's generosity and Winterton made it six before the provider turned scorer.

Despite being the smallest player on the pitch, Piggott rose in front of the otherwise impressive Letchworth goalkeeper to head home number seven.

Half-time gave the visitors a much-needed chance to regroup and they came out after the break with more resolve.

Eagles struggled to match their earlier level and in the 46th minute let in a soft goal, the first they had conceded in the season.

And they were sloppy with possession at times, apparently forgetting how well they could play when they kept the ball on the ground, passed and moved.

But they woke up again and another rampant 15-minute spell completed a crushing victory.

Piggott, whose pace and intelligent running allowed him to get behind the Letchworth defence all morning provided he had looked across the line, laid the ball on a plate for Oscar Youngman.

Then Kyle Smith made it 9-1 after good work by Georgiou, who brought up double figures himself.

Sean Blois cracked in a long-range beauty and King's through ball allowed Winterton to claim his hat-trick.

The last two goals were a tribute to Eagles' ruthlessness and determination to make sure the scoreline reflected their superiority.

Downie made one-more lung-busting run to flick on Fage's pass and Georgiou gave the move the finish it deserved.

Then in the last minute, when Owen Maslen's shot hit the bar, King made sure he was first to the ball, allowing Eagles to match the official total of goals from their opening game.

Team: Jacob McGlynn, Jacob Schroeder, Cameron King, Oscar Youngman, Anthony Georgiou, Sean Blois, Kyle Smith, Logan Downie, Luca Winterton, Jack Piggott, Kian Harness, George Palmer, Owen Maslen, Sam Fage.