

HOMENETMEN LONDON FOOTBALL CLUB

REVIEW OF ACHIEVEMENTS & PROGRESS 2005/2006

Source: Oshin Mehrabi

Homenetmen London Football Club ("The Club") has progressed significantly over the past season, competing in two international tournaments, and competing in a high quality 5-a-side league at the Top Corner League, Turnham Green and the Goals Premier League, Wembley.

The following report will break down the team's progress in training, domestic and international competitions.

1.1 Training Sessions

Training commences each Sunday at the Brunel University Sports Campus in Osterly. The Men's team training takes places between 1pm and 3pm, followed by the junior training session from 3pm to 5pm.

1.1.1 Men's Team Progress

The Men's team has taken great strides forward under the guidance of Klauss Celadon; training sessions consist of a group of committed players, which is reflected with a high average attendance to training sessions. There is currently senior players of which Klauss Celadon evaluates during training sessions to confirm a team selection of 8 players for the league matches at Goals.

Training sessions consist of cardiovascular and fitness training, ball work, passing and shooting scenarios, and finally an hour long training match. The results of the training sessions have been an improved level in fitness, and an overall improvement in the team's performances in competitive matches.

1.1.2. Junior Team Progress

The Junior Team under the leadership of Klauss Celadon has continued to make big strides forward this year, taking part in tournaments at Goals in Wembley as well as a Homenetmen organised tournament in Boston Manor. Commitment has been very good with a regular attendance of 10 to 12 players. The team has shown great enthusiasm to play and improve.

2.1. Domestic Competition



During the 2005/2006 season, the Men's team participated in 5-a-side leagues at Top Corner in Turnham Green, and in two consecutive Premier Leagues at Goals in Wembley. The following table illustrates the location, duration and final league position of the team in the respective competitions.

LEAGUE NAME	LOCATION	DURATION	FINAL PLACING
Top Corner	Turnham Green	4 months	4th
Goals Premier League (part 1)	Goals, Wembley	3 months	5th
Goals Premier League (part 2)	Goals, Wembley	4 months	5th

Table: League football, 2005/2006

The team has witnessed a steady improvement from its participation in competitive matches. Results have gradually improved, and the team has achieved consistency in performance quality, and in positive results.

The team's league debut was made at the Top Corner League at Turnham Green. This was the first taste of competitive 5-a-side football for many of the squad's players. The initial matches proved difficult as the team adjusted to the pace, and mentality required to succeed in the league. However this adjustment was short and team managed a respectable league placing. The team's participation in this league was the first step towards the vast improvement witnessed in the current league play, and quality throughout the squad.

After the 4th place finish at the Top Corner league, and under the decision of the coach, the team enrolled in the Goals Premier league. Despite entering the league through the half way point, the team managed a string of consistent performances, winning a higher ration of matches than losing. As a result, the team achieved a 5th place finish in a competitive league of higher quality than the previous Top Corner league.

The performances of the team have been encouraging, and this gradual improvement is evident at both training sessions, and during matches. Following the 5th place finish at the Goals league, the team has continued to play in the second part of this league. The quality of the opposing teams, and the experience gained from playing in a competitive environment has provided a solid basis for improvement.

It is hoped that the experience from playing competitive matches will yield a higher final placing at the end of the current season, and an improvement on the 5th place finish last season.

2.2 International Competition



2.2.1 Toronto Winter Games 2005

Homenetmen London participated in the Homenetmen Toronto Winter Games in November 2005.

In this six aside tournament, the team made a good start and created a few chances in the first game against the Toronto B team but despite best efforts, Toronto scored and the team didn't recover. In the second game against Montréal, London proved to be more competitive however went out to a 4-3 defeat. Nevertheless, the team really came together and bonded which will stand in good stead for the future.

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2.2.2 Pan Armenian Games: Duisberg Germany 2006



Homenetmen London participated in the Pan Armenian Games held in Duisberg, Germany in April 2006.

The tournament consisted of many Armenian teams from across Europe. The structure of the tournament and the nature of the rules had been based upon the 6-a-side rules used at the Geneva games.

Therefore the team had to play through a group stage consisting of 3 other teams, and if qualifying, reaching the quarter finals and so forth.

On the first day of play, the team played all three group matches, winning every match 1-0. Despite the low scores of the game, the team's display was solid, based on a strong defence and hard work from the midfield and strikers. Homenetmen London was the only team to qualify out of the group stage as winners, and qualifying without conceding a single goal.

The next round saw Homenetmen London drawn against the home team F.C Van. It was expected that this would be a tough match, as F.C Van had proven that they were a strong team, and as the home team, had the full support of the German crowd. Homenetmen London put in a good performance, although it was not good enough with the team hitting the woodwork 6 times during the match, and scoring only 1 goal. In addition to this, our goalkeeper for the tournament picked up an injury which significantly hampered his performances, resulting in the team with the best defensive record of the tournament conceding 4 unlucky goals. As a result the team failed to progress past the quarter final stage of the tournament.

In addition to the playing side of the tournament, the team also participated in the social events organised by the home committee. The Saturday Night Disco and the Gala Dinner were enjoyable for the team, as it gave us an opportunity to socialise with the other teams away from the football pitch.

In conclusion, the team represented Homenetmen London in an international tournament with pride. Had it not been for the unlucky circumstances in the quarter final match, the team could have progressed, and maybe could have won the tournament. However this was not the case, and from the disappointment, lessons were learned, and areas of improvement were identified. It is hoped that we can take this experience into future competitions and perform to a higher level.