

DORSET SUNDAY CHALLENGE CUP FINAL

Sunday 21st May 2023

at The County Ground, Hamworthy

STURMINSTER ROVERS 3 POOLE ROVERS 1

Bournemouth Division Three side Poole Rovers took an early lead in the DORSET SUNDAY CHALLENGE CUP FINAL at the County Ground but Blackmore Vale League champions Sturminster Rovers eventually got into their stride and came back to emerge 3-1 winners.

Poole Rovers settled quickly with Charlie Shears hitting the woodwork in the first minute and Jamie Kemp having an effort cleared off the line by a Sturminster defender four minutes later with his goalkeeper stranded.

It was third time lucky in the 10th minute though when Callum Whitelaw attacked down the left and fed **JAMIE KEMP** who steered the ball between the goalkeeper and the near post from seven yards out.

Poole Rovers continued to have the better of the play until midway through the first half when Sturminster began to get into the game and the Blackmore Vale side were on terms after 29 minutes with a well crafted equaliser, Jamie Danoris setting up **THEO CRANE** who applied the finishing touch.

The first half came to a close at 1-1 with Poole goalkeeper Chris Trim having made an excellent save from a close range header in stoppage time at the end of the half.

Sturminster took the lead 15 minutes into the second half when Jamie Danoris' perfectly flighted corner to the far post was met with a towering header from **NICK HEWLETT**. Poole Rovers had an opportunity to get on terms ten minutes later when they put Jamie Kemp through with just the goalkeeper to beat but, when he slipped the ball wide of the advancing 'keeper, it also went narrowly wide of the post.

Sturminster had the ball in the net again in the 73rd minute but it was ruled out for offside. Jamie Kemp was just wide again with an effort for Poole Rovers and then, at the other end, goalkeeper Chris Trim made an excellent save at the far post to deny what looked a certain goal from Jamie Danoris.

Sturminster broke away down the left in the 82nd minute and Jamie Danoris put in another cross which was clinically converted by **THEO CRANE** to make the game safe. Poole Rovers responded with a Jordan Quin effort which the Sturminster 'keeper did well to turn round the post for a corner.

Poole Rovers : Chris Trim, Jack Quinn, Tyler Gregory, Michael Trim, Sam Snow, Josh Ridland, Joe Rendell, Frankie Shears, Callum Whitelaw, Jamie Kemp, Charlie Shears, Adam Samways, Stephen Lillis, James Cherrett, Piotr Majewski, Jordan Quin.

