



BFA Senior League Season Commences With Exciting Opening

The Bahamas Football Association's Senior League Season commenced on Sunday, January 16, 2010 with a Charity Shield Cup Match between last season's winners Insurance Management Bears FC and runners-up Lyford Cay FC, and if this was a foretaste of things to come, then the season will look to be an exciting and entertaining one.

The day began with a round robin tournament for the teams registered in the Master's League (Over-40), and five of the six teams that showed up got to remind the attending fans of some of the skills from the past. United FC defeated Casuals in the opening match with a 2-1 win, followed by Bears FC defeating Real Bahamas. Cavalier FC then played and defeated United FC to set up the championship match between themselves and Bears. Before this was played, however, Casuals took on Real Bahamas in a losers match, which went down to penalties. Ultimately, Real Bahamas prevailed in the shoot-out. The final match saw Cavalier FC and Bears FC meet, and the result was a Cavalier win. The Master's League will commence on Wednesday, January 19, 2011 with two matches at the Roscow A. L. Davies Soccer Field.

The Cup match between Bears and Lyford Cay followed, and certainly did not let down on the entertainment factor. A moment of silence was held in honor of Clarence Bellot, a former member of Bears FC and former BFA Executive, after which the action kicked off at full speed. Lyford Cay assumed the run of play in the first half and took full advantage of the Bears lethargy. A dynamic free kick early on in the match gave Lyford the lead, and this was doubled shortly thereafter by a flicked in corner kick. The half ended with no further goals, and the 2-0 lead that Lyford took to the break should have been enough to see them through.

Stunned into action, Bears returned to the field with newfound vigor, and gradually exerted their influence over the proceedings. Lyford still held on and seemed to have wrapped it all up when a Bears player was sent off midway through the second half for serious foul play. The extra space on the field seemed to work in Bears favor, however, as they gradually stroked their way back into the match. Three goals late in the game, with the final one being scored in the 89th minute allowed Bears to kick off the new season the same way that they concluded the old one, winning trophies. The 3-2 victory could have been more, as three or four one on one chances were wasted along the way, but nonetheless, the result was a fair one given the performances on the day.

League action kicks off next Sunday, January 23 with two matches. At 2:00 pm Baha Juniors will play United FC and at 4:00 pm, Dynamos will take on COB. All league matches will be played at the Roscow A.L. Davies Soccer Field.