

Lions Pick Up First Win of The Season

Roberts has goal and assist

St Louis – The St Louis Lions came from a goal down to collect their first three points of the season with a 2-1 victory at Cooper Sports Complex against the Springfield Demize. The win moved the Lions up to second in the table and gave the hosts their second home defeat of the season.

In a fast paced first half, very few chances were created as both sides struggled to connect more than a couple of passes. However, in the 26th minute, Jack Griffin gave the Demize the lead. A Gabe Christiansen corner was cleared to Griffin at the top of the box and the midfielder took a touch to control the ball before firing it high past St Louis keeper Andrew Hamerlinck, who was making his first start of the season.

Despite the Lions winning four corners in the first half, they were unable to find a way past Yuta Nomura in the Demize goal and trailed 1-0 heading in to the half-time break.

After some stern words from head coach Tony Glavin in the locker room, the Lions came out flying to start the second half.

They were rewarded for their increase in intensity with an equalizer in the 61st minute. A long ball forward was flicked on by Vadim Cojocov to captain Jonny Brown. The midfielder got free on the right hand side before firing the ball across the box where forward Jordan Roberts smashed the ball high past Nomura for his first goal of the season.

The Lions had now pinned the Demize deep into their half and the introduction of substitutes Steve McAnany and Ryan Beasley gave the visitors a more attacking edge. Midfielder Jai Maw pulled out a terrific save from Nomura as they continued to search for the winning goal.

In the 82nd minute, they finally got it. Some sharp passing in the midfield led to a through ball to Roberts, who managed to break free from two defenders and stand a cross up to the back post where Carson Pryor nodded it beyond Nomura to give the Lions a lead that they wouldn't give up.

The Lions will take a week off before returning to action next Friday at Chapples Park, Thunder Bay against long time rival the Thunder Bay Chill. Kick off is set for 7.30pm ET.