

Battersea Old Salesians help Clinch Glory
Saturday 02 MAY 2008
Midland Football Combination (Div 1)
V
Southern Amateur League (SAL)



James Ayres, after captaining Battersea Old Salesians to victory over Farnborough in the National Don Bosco Cup on April 27th, captained the **Southern Amateur League (SAL)** to victory in the FA's National League System Cup Final at Coventry City's ground (**the Ricoh Stadium**) on Saturday evening.



James was one of five Battersea Old Salesians in the Cup Final squad. Nick Haynes (who notably missed a penalty in the Don Bosco Cup Final last Sunday) scored the winning penalty in the shoot-out to win the game, and had earlier scored in normal time.



The SAL team will now represent England in October in Turin (Yes **TURIN!**) in a play off against Italy, Scotland and Republic of Ireland, prior to a 'UEFA Final' tournament in June 2009.

The match got off to a great start, with two goals being scored within the first six minutes. This was from a home team penalty after four minutes followed by an equaliser from **Old Salesian's Nick Haynes**, just two minutes later.



However the score was still equal, at one all, at the end of extra time. One reporter stated that at the end of extra time the SAL team were just the better side.

And, just like the 'Champions League Cup Final' between Manchester United and Chelsea, the match went to penalties. This is where the Amateurs won the day, beating the Division 1 (home team) in a 4:2 shoot out. It was again, Nick Haynes, who scored the penalty that sends the Southern Amateur League team on their way to TURIN (where Don Bosco founded the Salesian Order) in October for the UEFA Regions Cup in October 2008. **James Ayres** was named "**Man of the Match**."



The 5 Salesian Members of the winning National Cup squad. Left to right:

James Ayres (Captain), Nick Haynes, Michael Ayres, Chris Shaw and Russel Hodges.

See fuller report on:

http://www.thefa.com/TheFACup/TheNLSCup/NewsAndFeatures/Postings/2008/05/NLS_Final_report.htm