

# VICTORY AT LAST

**L**UCK changed on Saturday for the Sussex football team that never gave up trying.

After two seasons without winning a single point in the Mid-Sussex Minor League, Staplefield Minors notched a convincing 4-1 victory over St. John's (Clayton) Boys' Club.

In the previous two seasons Staplefield's league record was: Played 30, lost 30, goals for 8, against 308.

The club's chairman, Mr. Ronald Charlton, said: "It rained hard the whole game, and only about a dozen spectators saw our first-ever league win. But they gave us a special cheer.

"At half-time we were a goal down, and it looked as if the usual defeat was in store for us.

"However, in the second half our lads rallied strongly and got four good goals in about 10 minutes. They played very well.

"Apart from two lads who are now too old to play in this minor football, the team was the same as that which was often so very heavily beaten last season."

Despite losing match after match in their first two league seasons, Staplefield's boys never got downhearted. Teams turned out as chosen, there was no slacking and weekly training sessions were always attended 100 per cent.

Because of their attitude on the field and off it, despite one good hiding after another, Staplefield were twice awarded a special cup for being the most sporting side in the league.

Which somehow seems to prove what so many people tend to forget: the game is the thing!