

Champions Once Again!!!

In a game reminiscent of days gone by, the Stingers outslugged Perring rivals Linway Lounge to take home the title with a stifling display of soccer and class. The final score ended up 7-4, but the game was a much tighter affair than that.

The key to the game was always going to be the early start. Whoever scored first would probably end up with the win. Both teams had quick attacks, but it was nearly a dream start for Linway, as they had a combination set up for a sure goal by Lance Reedinger, and he was already celebrating and talking about his glory, only to see his attempt snuffed out by a sprawling save by the keeper. 0-0, and the Stingers were clearly of a mind to win this match.



It was not Linway's day.

A quick counter attack later, and the Stingers were on the board through Mike Alessi's clinical finish from close range. Before you could blink, it was 2-0, and the air was clearly leaving Linway's sail, as the gameplan of tight marking, physical play, and off-side motion was working to set up many chances. Linway was off their game on the wrong night. At the half, Linway's bench sat stunned, the Stingers were well on their way

A quick start to the second half saw the Stingers jump out again, and get the third and fourth goals to really put the pressure on the boys in green. John Snead even got in the act with a pinball goal. The opponents were certainly worthy, and fought a goal back with a disputed finish off of two point blank saves. Add a seeing eye goal that deflected off three players in front, and the game was 4-2 at the stretch.

The boys found out what pressure really is with the fourth quarter seeing Linway pull within a goal, but true to form, the Stingers found a way getting their own garbage goal off an own goal cracker from Linway to restore the 2 goal lead. Again, Linway found a way, and clawed one back, but the Stingers had an answer following a two minute penalty and ensuing power play goal that put the game nearly out of reach. Tempers flared on the Linway bench, letting emotion get the best of them seeing their 4 session reign come to an end.

But the Stingers weren't done. In true Stingers fashion, the game isn't over till the end, and it was exciting to the final whistle. A full field goal by keeper Jesse Roberts sealed the game and effectively iced the beverages for the Stingers.

Another championship, another great celebration, and the champagne flowed like, well, champagne.

Man of the **M**atch: Lance Reedinger, for taking a shot so easily saved that it set the Stingers in motion for their fourth championship in recent history.