



<b>Match:</b>	FC Volendam – Helmond Sport	 	
<b>Date:</b>	December 9, 20h00 CET		
<b>Preview:</b>	<p>The differences on the table are small, and after last week's defeat at Almere Volendam must actually win again to stay connected to the top five spots. That should've been the case already last week, but at Almere they got surprised by counter attacks and set pieces and left emptyhanded: 2-1. That was definitely not a fair result, but Volendam forgot to score goals themselves. Except for some short phases they were clearly the better team and controlled the game, but their beautifully constructed attacks didn't result in goals. They had their chances, but spoiled them. At the same time Almere was extremely dangerous on the counter attack, and in the end it cost them the game. Volendam is doing fine and deserves to be this high on the table, but three defeats in their last five games (all on the road) is too much for a side with ambition.</p> <p>Helmond is an ambitious side too, but they're in a serious slump. They got defeated for a third time in a row last week, and the 0-1 on home soil against Emmen really hurt. The week before they got killed by Willem II with their biggest defeat ever, but their level against Emmen was questionable too. They missed an awful lot of players and that's after all a legitimate excuse for the poor result, but I'm afraid things won't get any better before the winter if they keep on playing with their current squad. Against Emmen they deserved a draw as they were not any weaker than their opponent except from the first twenty minutes of the game, but that says enough about the matchlevel as well. Helmond is in a difficult situation, and I think this game at Volendam will only cause more trouble right now.</p> <p>I'm charmed by Volendam's football, and I don't think they'll make any mistakes here against a troubled Helmond. Volendam's football and style are ok, especially on home soil. With Helmond they actually do face a direct opponent for the higher league positions, but there's right now too much in between them on form and quality. This Helmond can't be taken serious, and -0,75 is a fair deal for this game.</p> <p>Compared to last week Helmond has Kazlauskas and Gashi back, but still misses 8 other players. Volendam has no fresh worries.</p>		
	<b>Level of confidence:</b>	Medium	<b>Verdict:</b>  <b>Volendam -0,75</b>
	<b>Minimal playable odds:</b>	1.85	