

FRY CLUB COLTS U13

MATCH REPORT

Number 10

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Another hard game, another good result – keep it up!

YOUNG COLTS TURN OVER OLD BOYS

Having been under the cosh at times last week in the top of the table clash against Stapleton it was always likely that fourth placed Henbury might also be a handful. So it was to prove. Colts lined up:

	Sam Johnson	
Tom Hamblin	Jason McCrossan	
Mark Webb	Nick Guest	
Dan Payne	Craig Palmer	
Ashley Rowe	Ian Field	
Liam Kavanagh	Jay Beale	

Colts kicked off and Ian, Liam and Ashley combined to give Jay an early opportunity to advance on goal – but the Henbury 'keeper was out quickly to get to the ball first.

We also quickly gained our first corner, taken by Craig on the right, low to the near post, but nobody was able to get on the end of it. A long throw by Dan then saw Jay get a header on target, but lacking power.

A long through ball from Tom saw Jay race through, only for the 'keeper to come out of his area to kick clear. Ashley, Dan and Liam then Dan again crafted a half-chance for Ian. He did well to chest the ball down but it was whipped away by a defender before he could get his shot in.

It was by no means one-way traffic, however, and Henbury retaliated with a run down our right flank and a cross was whipped across the six-yard box that, fortunately, evaded everyone and went out for a goalkick. Play was quickly up to the other end, and although Jay was unable to find Ian with his through ball, the clearance fell to Ashley, whose shot was only just off target.

Ian passed inside to Craig, who's measured through ball found Jay just inside the area. His firmly struck shot was low in to the corner of the net (1-0) after seven minutes.

A minute later and a quick break by Henbury saw Jason get in a good tackle to prevent their forward homing in on goal. Ian completed the clearance. Eleven minutes gone and Sam pulled off a stunning save to push the ball round the post. This saved Mark's blushes, as it was his miscued clearance that had nearly provided Henbury with an equaliser. Tom headed the corner behind and everyone missed the second one. We broke quickly, and although Craig's pass was too long for Jay, Henbury were unable to clear. Jay centred and Liam was only inches away from getting on the end of it.

Henbury were relying on breaking quickly on the counter attack, mixing long balls with quick inter-passing. They had one striker who was lightening quick. They managed to get one shot on target – but straight at Sam. However, another quick break, in the fourteenth minute saw Jason and the Henbury striker chasing back together, Sam rushing out, and the striker just getting a foot in first to send the ball narrowly wide.

We too were capable of breaking at pace, and a long ball out from Craig to Liam and on to Ashley saw the centre cleared only as far as Craig, who unleashed a shot narrowly wide from 35 yards. Mark then got forward for a shot from distance that, although on target, lacked sufficient pace to trouble the 'keeper.

Dan and Jason then both got in tackles to prevent Henbury breaking through our defence. Half way through the half and Jay centred from the left and as Ashley challenged the 'keeper, the ball ran to Liam who managed to lift the ball over the 'keeper and under the bar (2-0).

Henbury pressed forward in an endeavour to reduce the deficit, and Tom managed to stem the flow at the expense of a corner. Sam reacted quickly to get down and block the shot that resulted, and we managed to scramble the ball away to safety.

Twenty-two minutes gone and this time we were punished by the speed of the break against us, Sam and our defence losing out in the race to the ball as a Henbury forward raced through on goal (2-1). The goal seemed to lift Henbury and they started get more in to the game, pushing us back at times. Sam had to rush out and kick clear, and Nick got in a couple of timely tackles as Henbury switched their angle of attack to our left flank.

We broke clear and Ian and Liam interchanged passes before Ian broke in to the area and shot only a foot or so wide of the post. A quickly taken free kick from Ian gave Craig the opportunity to run down the left wing, and he did well to get his cross in as he was surrounded by defenders. The 'keeper just got to the ball first as Ashley lunged in.

Jason, Tom and Nick each had to make important challenges or interceptions during the next few minutes as play switched from end to end. Some of the play was a bit frantic, but some was good passing and movement at speed.

Mark then intercepted a through ball, passed to Ian, on to Craig then Liam before Jay finished the move off with a shot on the turn that although on target was rather weak. A good move. As the ball came out Dan strolled forward and unleashed a drive from 30 yards that flashed a yard wide of the far post.

Nick cleared another good cross in to our box, and Mark weighed in with a strong tackle as Henbury tried their luck down our right flank. Ashley won the ball in midfield and passed out to Liam on the right. The ball came back inside for Dan to centre. Although the ball was cleared it dropped to Craig whose centre was met by Jay. He swivelled and hit the ball with his right foot and the Henbury 'keeper did well to fingertip the low shot round the post. Jay's firm header from Craig's corner went wide of the post.

A couple of runs through the middle came to nothing, then with half time approaching, Jay cut inside and completely miscued his right foot shot. Either that or it was a cunningly disguised pass to Liam who managed to return the ball for Jay to blast home with his left foot (3-1).

HALF TIME: COLTS 3 HENBURY 1

Andy rang the changes at half time, with Craig, Ian and Mark coming off and the team changing round so that we lined up:

	Sam Johnson	
Tom Hamblin	Jason McCrossan	
Nick Guest		Phil Knight
	Ashley Rowe	Colin Stallard
Dan Payne		Liam Kavanagh
	Gareth Smith	Jay Beale

Two minutes in to the second half and Jason was obviously still in the trance induced by Andy's half time team talk. Tom passed the ball across to him; Jason tried not to panic – but too late! Fortunately a Henbury player strayed offside but it was a comical start that fortunately didn't prove to be serious.

A ball from Ashley out wide to Dan on the right and he won a corner. Although Colin's kick was cleared and Henbury broke forward, Jason read the danger and cleared long for Jay to chase towards the penalty area. He tangled with a defender on the edge of the area and the whistle went. As I said in the report on the North Bristol game – you have to learn to accept referees' decisions. So it was nice that we were awarded a penalty, although I was too far away to see what it was for.

Tom ran in to take the spot kick and the Henbury 'keeper blocked the shot brilliantly, low to his right. What a save! However, Tom had been following up his shot and was able to fire the loose ball past the 'keeper (4-1). Henbury broke back with an attack down our right flank and we were rather fortunate when Liam's clearance ricocheted back off a Henbury player, looping over our crossbar.

A good ball by Jay saw Gareth nearly force his way through only for both him and a defender to collide. We then won a corner that Dan met, but running away from goal he could not direct his header on target.

With a quarter of an hour gone, as Henbury again attacked, a strong shoulder charge by Jason was deemed fair by the referee and as the ball came out to Ashley he played an accurate through ball in to space. Both Dan and Gareth had the opportunity to take the ball on towards goal. Gareth gave Dan the honour and he advanced and cracked the ball home from the edge of the box (5-1).

From the restart Ashley won the ball and passed to Colin and Ashley headed on his 'up-and-under' to Dan. Unfortunately his cross was just too long for Jay.

With twenty minutes gone, Dan conceded a free kick on the edge of the area. The ball was hit hard towards the goal and took a deflection that prevented Sam from keeping the ball from crossing the line (5-2).

Just as it had lifted them earlier, the goal seemed to recharge Henbury's batteries and they attacked with renewed vigour. A good interception and clearance by Tom and a good 'take' by Sam as an attacker ran in to meet a cross kept them at bay before we broke back. Colin spread play with a ball out to Jay on the left, inside to Gareth and a back-heel for Colin to shoot, and the 'keeper to parry.

Gareth then chased valiantly to gain the ball on the right and lay the ball back for Dan, who was unable to get in a shot. His layback to Colin gave him a chance to shoot, but the shot lacked power. From the clearance Jason headed the ball back powerfully and Jay leathered the ball over from 35 yards.

We then saw a flowing move with Tom clearing and Gareth and Jay combining for Gareth to dash in to the box and shoot narrowly wide of the far post. Henbury were concentrating most of their efforts down the left flank but Jason's pace and Phil's anticipation were such that they were not getting much joy in this direction. Jason also caused concern in the Henbury defence with a couple of prodigious throws.

Tom also had the opportunity to venture forward with a run down the right touchline before centring for Jay to chest down and Liam to shoot just wide from 25 yards. Another long throw from Jason and Colin brought the ball down with immaculate

control, but was stretching a bit when he shot and couldn't get enough power behind the ball to trouble the 'keeper.

Another clearance from Jason and Dan moved the ball out wide to Ashley who exchanged passes with Gareth before shooting in to the side netting. With the seconds ticking away, Dan played a long ball for Jay to chase. He just got to the ball before the 'keeper, but had to go wide to round him. The 'keeper did well to regain his ground and claim the ball when crossed.

FULL TIME: COLTS 5 HENBURY 2

Behaviour.....

On the whole, I don't think that our players are any worse behaved than most other lads of their age playing football, so these comments are not aimed at anyone in particular.

Having read Andy's newsletter I readily agree that players must show respect for the decisions made by referees. Personally, I'd be in favour of referees booking players for dissent, even at this age level. It might help to develop acceptable behaviour and encourage more people to take up refereeing. It might be nice to see managers exercising some control over their players in this respect – perhaps by substituting offenders – although I doubt very much that this would happen!

Unfortunately, during the four seasons that I've been watching junior football, most problems have stemmed from over voluble adults – many of whom are unaware of the laws of the game, particularly the changes that have occurred in recent years. They are also often fiercely partisan in their support and only too willing to make comments to players. At this age, kids don't tend to initiate comment, but they will react to abuse and adverse comment.

So, if someone on the touchline is giving you verbal aggro – complain to the referee. He can deal with it. Don't start anything yourself – don't get involved – don't leave yourself open to criticism – whether it is warranted or not.

I thought that.....

you might be interested in this story, which appeared in the London 'Evening Standard', last week:

Pushy American parents sent back to school

CHILDREN of overly competitive parents will be banned from sports teams unless the parents take a course in good sportsmanship, an athletic association in Palm Beach, Florida, has said.

Parental violence and abuse has become so prevalent among junior sports leagues that the Jupiter-Tequesta Athletic Association is making parents take a mandatory hour-long ethics course or risk their children being dropped from football, baseball, hockey and basketball teams, as well as being banned from cheerleading.

In Fort Lauderdale two coaches and seven players were expelled from a youth football league after a punch-up. "We just want to de-escalate the intensity that's being shown by the parents at these games," said Jeff Leslie, president of the association.

"The kids are getting embarrassed every day by the parents," he said. "We've had instances of little kids in softball crying on the mound because the parents embarrass the stew out of them."

TEAM FACTS Appearances

Andy has asked me to show appearances in a slightly different manner, so each player will have four figures appearing after their name, signifying:

- (i) Full appearances (played the whole game)
- (ii) First half appearances (substituted)
- (iii) Second half appearances (substitute)
- (iv) Absent (not available)

Jay Beale	7	1	2	1
Ian Field	6	1	3	1
Nick Guest	6	2	1	2
Tom Hamblin	10	1	0	0
Sam Johnson	10	0	0	1
Liam Kavanagh	2	2	2	4
Phil Knight	8	1	2	0
Jason McCrossan	9	0	1	1
Craig Palmer	8	2	1	0
Dan Payne	7	1	2	1
Ashley Rowe	6	2	1	1
Gareth Smith	8	2	1	0
Colin Stallard	8	1	2	0
Mark Webb	7	3	1	0

(Substitute appearances by Ashley and Liam for the last few minutes against Stapleton are not included, nor are the two made by James Williams, also of only a few minutes in the first two games.)

Goals

13 - Beale;
9 - Guest, Payne;
7 - Rowe, Smith;
5 - Palmer;
4 - Hamblin,
3 - Field, Stallard;
2 - McCrossan;
1 - Kavanagh, o.g.

21st November - League Results

Christchurch	0	St Nicholas	4
Coalpit Heath	0	Warmley	3
Eastwood	0	Frampton	6
Fry's	5	Henbury	2
NBC	1	St Annes	3
Stapleton	4	Shirehampton	0

Fixtures

Sep	12	A	St Nicholas 'B'	4-1
	19	H	Frampton Rangers 'A'	3-0
	26	A	Shirehampton Colts (Cup - 1 st round)	11-1
Oct	3	A	Warmley Rangers 'A'	2-0
	10	H	Coalpit Heath	3-1
	17	A	Eastwood Boys 'B'	5-0
	24	H	Christchurch	3-0
	31	H	Frampton Rangers 'A' (Cup - 2 nd round)	3-6
Nov	7	A	North Bristol Colts	21-2
	14	H	Stapleton Juniors	4-2
	21	H	Henbury O B Colts 'B'	5-2
	28	A	Shirehampton Colts	
Dec	5	H	St Annes Rangers	
	12	A	St Annes Rangers	
	19	H	St Nicholas 'B'	

CHRISTMAS BREAK

League table as at 21st November

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Fry Club	9	9	0	0	50	8	27
Stapleton	9	8	0	1	50	12	24
St Annes	8	6	1	1	28	18	19
Henbury	8	5	0	3	30	17	15
Frampton	9	4	1	4	46	26	13
St Nicholas	8	4	1	3	35	25	13
Warmley	8	3	0	5	19	21	9
North Bristol	10	2	2	6	23	54	8
Shirehampton	8	2	1	5	19	37	7
Eastwood Boys	7	1	1	5	11	45	4
Christchurch	8	0	3	5	11	31	3
Coalpit Heath	8	1	0	7	17	45	3