



## FRY CLUB COLTS

# U14 MATCH REPORT U14

Number 15

Colts scrap for a draw

26<sup>th</sup> February 2001

U14MATCHREPORTU14MATCHREPORT  
 BITTON 'A'  
 V  
 FRY CLUB COLTS  
 U14MATCHREPORTU14MATCHREPORT

Only Gareth missing with a touch of tonsillitis. The major change from last week was that Andy reverted to 4-4-2, and switched Ross from up front to wide left, with Liam partnering Jay:

Nick Frost

Tom Hamblin Jason McCrossan  
 Joe Cook Phil Knight

Nick Guest Mark Webb Dan Payne Ross Malone

Liam Kavanagh Jay Slade

Bitton kicked off and an early break down our left flank saw Phil deceived by the flight of the ball in windy conditions. Although Joe came across to cover, he could only divert the ball from the path of one attacker in to that of another! Fortunately the ball was struck just wide of the angle of post and bar.

We responded with a through ball from Nick that Liam latched on to and sent a left foot shot from the edge of the area only a couple of feet wide.

Another attack down our left flank saw the ball whipped across our penalty area and knocked back in from the right. Nick got down smartly to smother the ball, under the close attention of a Bitton attacker.

A good throw from Tom on the right was flicked on by first Jay and then Dan for Ross coming in from the far side to hit a low drive just past the far post.

Just under ten minutes gone and a huge throw from Jason, in to the six-yard box was well met by Liam who hooked the ball with his left foot high in to the corner of the net (1-0).

A low cross in from Bitton had Nick scrambling across his line, but Joe cleared for a throw-in. Then Jason was the victim of a crude challenge, the Bitton player receiving a booking. Clearly the challenge didn't affect Jason's kicking foot – a long clearance found Jay making ground down the left flank, and he held off a challenge and cut in to the edge of the area before unleashing a drive just wide of the far post.

Jay provided a good flick-on from Tom's clearance, the ball just running too far ahead of Liam, allowing the 'keeper to come out and clear.

Just under half an hour gone, and our first corner, thanks to Ross' persistence in challenging. Ross sent the corner kick in low and hard towards Mark at the near post, but Bitton managed to clear.

Just before half time and a second Bitton player went in to the book, for swearing. Tom launched the ball long to the far post where Ross was unable to direct his header on target, from a narrow angle.

**HALF TIME: BITTON 0 FRY'S 1**

Curtis came on to replace Nick at the start of the second half, but it didn't prevent Bitton securing an equaliser two minutes in to the half. We were caught ball watching as Nick's goalkick was met by a Bitton player who actually ran towards the ball and headed it rather than standing around and looking at it. Bitton reacted quickly and although Phil tried to get a tackle in their attacker slid the ball past the unprotected Nick (1-1).

With a quarter of an hour gone, Ian eventually changed his shirt to come on and replace Liam, switching places with Ross.

A foul conceded on the edge of our penalty area saw the free kick curled towards the far top corner of the net, Nick doing well to get across his line and palm the ball round the post. Ian then headed the inswinging corner from the right off the line on the near post.

With a quarter of an hour left, Craig came on to replace Phil. Curtis was unlucky with a shot from just inside the area, and this was followed by a good break down the left from Jay and a cross in that was met by Ian, who shot wide.

A good ball over the top from Joe allowed Ross to lay the ball back for Curtis to get another shot in, low past the far post.

In to injury-time and the referee produced another yellow card, followed by a red, as the Bitton player previously booked for swearing was caught again! Some \*\*\*\*\* never learn.

**FULL TIME: BITTON 1 FRY'S 1**

### *Afterthoughts*.....

*I thought that there were some encouraging signs this week. Bitton were a team with a more similar style of play to ourselves than Whitchurch, and we combined some good touches with our normal commitment and endeavour.*

*One of our major problems, however, is a lack of tactical awareness. This isn't helped by:*

- *Having to train on hardcourts at present*
- *Players not coming training*

*When 'Plan A' – bang the ball up for Jay to score – isn't working, we don't have a 'Plan B' to fall back on, because we've never been able to work on one! This week, Jay was winning the ball in the air most convincingly – some brilliant flick-ons. Unfortunately the rest of our players weren't playing close enough to him to take advantage. Given that Jay normally takes up a position to the left of the pitch, the other front player needs to come across, closer, and be in motion towards the opposition goal as the ball reaches Jay. The wide left player also needs to anticipate the knock-on and be chasing through. That way you have two players attacking the ball, which also puts defenders under pressure.*

*We also need to work out, given different wind and pitch conditions, where Nick's clearances are likely to reach, so we are close enough to attack the ball. We don't always need to head the ball forward either. If you're facing your own goal, then a cushioned header towards a team-mate you can see is often better than a flick on to an opposition defender.*

### **Results: U14s – Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> February**

Bitton	1	Fry Club	1
Brislington 'A'	2	Almondsbury	2
Frampton 'A'	0	Warmley 'A'	3
Whitchurch 'A'	4	Avon Athletic	2

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts	GD
Whitchurch 'A'	11	5	3	3	20	17	18	+3
Whitchurch 'B'	11	5	2	4	26	15	17	+11
Bitton 'A'	9	5	2	2	23	12	17	+11
Brislington 'A'	9	5	2	2	18	14	17	+4
<b>Fry Club 'A'</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>+3</b>
Warmley 'A'	10	4	1	5	23	23	13	=
Avon Athletic	9	4	1	4	17	21	13	-4
Thornbury	8	3	0	5	12	19	9	-7
Frampton 'A'	11	2	1	8	16	33	7	-17
Almondsbury	7	1	3	3	11	15	6	-4

### **U14s - RE-ARRANGED FIXTURES**

The season now extends until May 3<sup>rd</sup>. There are five evening games – all on a Thursday. If you have existing commitments on any of these dates, and won't be able to play, please let Andy know **now**. Similarly, if you know that you won't be available for any Sunday games – school trips, holidays, etc.; then advanced warning would be appreciated. Otherwise, letting Andy know as soon as possible of unavailability through sickness, injury, etc. would be helpful.

#### **March**

4	H	Almondsbury
11	H	Brislington (SC QF)
18	H	Warmley Rangers 'A'
25	H	Whitchurch 'B'
Thurs 29	H	Whitchurch 'A' (6.15 KO)

#### **April**

Thurs 5	A	Brislington 'A' (6.15 KO)
8		U15 tour – no game
15	A	Almondsbury
Thurs 19	H	Frampton 'A' (6.30 KO)
22	H	Bitton 'A'
Thurs 26	A	Whitchurch 'A' (6.30 KO)
29	H	Thornbury Falcons

#### **May**

Thurs 3	H	Avon Athletic (6.30 KO)
---------	---	-------------------------