



FRY CLUB COLTS

U15 MATCH REPORT U16

Number 10

Colts overcome Hengrove by the odd goal in tense thriller

20th November 2001

Bristol Junior League U16

Hengrove Boys	3-4	Fry Club Colts
Winford	2-1	Whitchurch
Patchway		Hengrove Athletic

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts	GD
Fry Club 'A'	7	5	0	2	31	14	15	+17
Winford	6	4	1	1	33	8	13	+25
Hengrove Boys	6	3	1	2	30	12	10	+18
Patchway	4	3	1	0	17	8	10	+9
Whitchurch	7	1	1	5	14	27	4	-13
Hengrove Ath	6	0	0	6	2	58	0	-56

Avon Youth League U15 – First Division

Henbury OB 'B'	4-3	Almondsbury
----------------	-----	-------------

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts	GD
Brislington 'A'	8	7	1	0	35	13	22	+22
Whitchurch 'A'	9	7	0	2	25	14	21	+11
Fry Club 'A'	8	6	2	0	32	13	20	+19
St Vallier	8	5	1	2	37	20	16	+17
Bitton 'A'	9	5	1	3	28	21	16	+7
Whitchurch 'B'	9	5	0	4	21	17	15	+4
Avon Athletic	9	5	0	4	17	14	15	+3
Warmley 'A'	7	4	0	3	28	19	12	+9
DRG Stapleton	8	3	1	4	20	12	10	+8
Thornbury	9	1	0	8	17	32	6	-15
Frampton 'A'	7	1	0	6	11	35	3	-24
Almondsbury	10	1	0	9	12	37	3	-25
Henbury O B	9	1	0	8	13	49	3	-36

Avon Youth League U15 – League Cup

Brislington Juniors 'A'	8-1	Winterbourne
Cadbury Heath	4-0	South Glos Boys
St Nicholas 'A'	0-4	Bitton Boys 'A'
St Nicholas 'B'	3-4	Whitchurch 'A'
Stoke Lane	1-4	DRG Stapleton
Warmley 'A'	2-1	Avon Athletic
Warmley 'B'	0-8	Bamfield
Whitchurch 'B'	1-3	St Vallier

Fry Club J F C

Fry Club U10s	2-20	Bitton (League Cup)
Fry Club U11s	1-3	Saltford
Fry Club U12s		Henbury (League Cup)
Bishopston Utd	2-3	Fry Club U13s

U16MATCHREPORTU16MATCHREPORT
HENGROVE BOYS
V
FRY CLUB COLTS
U16MATCHREPORTU16MATCHREPORT

I probably look forward to the games against Hengrove more than any other. I guess it's our local derby. Over the past three seasons the bulk of their squad has remained much the same, as has ours. They've been consistent and successful and, together with Patchway, have been the benchmark against which we can measure our improvement.

So, the first question today was which, if either, was the fluke result – our 3-1 win against Hengrove early on in the season, or the 6-1 reverse against Patchway a fortnight ago?

With no Steves again, Jay unavailable, and Joe only partially fit, the team was:

Ryan Perry
Mark Webb Tom Hamblin Dan Payne Phil Knight
Jack Gooding Rich Healey
Gareth Smith Zolly Vanyai
Jamie Bryant Jon Pitt

Substitutes: Ross Ashman, Joe Garland, Greg Tucker

Both teams possess a mixture of players – some dependable and some excitable – commanding characters, grafters, flair players, those capable of individual moments of magic that can turn games. At the end of the game it's how these qualities gel together, mixed with desire, commitment, the tactical nous of the coaches, the expertise of the officials and the variable intervention of Lady Luck that determines the outcome of the match. So, how would it go today?

Hengrove kicked off and the first five minutes saw both teams attempting to establish initial superiority. Players closed down opponents quickly; tackles flew in, it was mostly midfield skirmishing; it was five minutes in to the half before the first incisive break from Hengrove was rewarded with a corner on our right. Ben Garland swung the ball over and Dan managed to get in front of Kevin Curtis and head clear. A tackle from behind by Marcus Smith on Jack resulted in a word from the referee before Jack's free kick was headed clear by Kevin. Why is it that the ball is drawn to his head like iron to a magnet?

Just less than ten minutes gone and a fine through ball found Jason Pitman bursting through only to be foiled by Ryan coming out quickly. We responded with a dink over Hengrove's defence from Jack that almost allowed Jon in, but John Durbin responded to the danger and cleared the ball.

Zolly then got in a cross from the left to the far post that saw Gareth just unable to climb quite high enough to direct his header on target. A throw in from Mark saw Jamie feed Gareth who crossed to the near post where Kevin intercepted and calmly headed the ball back to his 'keeper, despite the close presence of Jon.

Jon and Jamie then combined well down the right flank to win a corner. Marcus cleared Jack's kick but only as far as Tom whose header back in was directed off target by Dan.

A free kick from Tom saw Jack and Gareth link up to provide Zolly with an opening on the edge of the area, but the ball stuck under his foot and the opportunity was lost.

Twenty minutes gone and a foul by Tom saw Kevin pump the ball in to the area. Tom's header out fell to Kye Hendy on the edge of the area and his right foot shot dipped only a couple of feet over the bar.

A fine ball from Ben Crewe out to Ashley Bullock on the right saw him produce a shot that Ryan got down to smother. We responded with a run from Jon that saw him streak past Kevin only for Mattie Curnow to get a hand to the ball and take the pace off the shot enabling Kevin to get back and clear.

With 25 minutes gone, and after a period of Hengrove pressure, we took the lead. An interception by Phil saw Jamie and Zolly link up to provide a through ball for **Jon** to again bear down

on goal. Despite appeals for offside Rich Pitman kept the flag down and the finish was clinical, a low shot in to the corner of the net (1-0).

Jon flicked on another long through ball from Jack, but Kye put Jamie under pressure and his shot was off target. Then a good interception by Rich saw him send Jon away down the left. The cross came over and was cleared only as far as Jack. Again, the closing down was quick though, and his shot was hurried and wide.

With ten minutes of the half remaining, Rich was penalised for use of the arm when going up for a header. Rich was retreating, albeit slowly, as the free kick was quickly taken. The ball deflected off Rich to Phil who knocked the ball over the top of the defence for Jamie to run on to. He was beaten to the ball by a defender who passed back to Mattie who hacked his clearance straight at Jamie who had continued his run. The clearance cannoned off **Jamie** – it could of gone anywhere – but hit the back of the net (2-0). Hengrove complained but the goal stood. A touch of Lady Luck? Perhaps.

Hengrove came back at us and it needed some resolute defending from Tom, Dan, and Mark to preserve our lead. Then another burst through from Jon brought a parry from the 'keeper and a shot from the rebound that cleared the bar. Hengrove responded with a 30-yard shot from Ben Garland that whistled only just wide.

HALF-TIME: HENGROVE 0 COLTS 2

Now half time team talks are all reasonably similar. The losing team look at where they're falling down, make what tactical changes the coach feels are necessary, and go for it from the start. The winning team is told to keep things tight for the first ten minutes or so, in particular.

So, a minute in to the half and Hengrove are attacking. Dan takes a wild swing at the ball, misses, and Ben Crewe lobs Ryan (2-1). A couple of minutes later and a crossfield ball from Ben Garland found Jason making ground down our left flank. A hard low cross was on its way to the feet of Ben Crewe only for Ryan to get a hand to it and Tom clear.

'Turbo' came on to replace Troy as Hengrove sought an equaliser, but it was us who nearly got the next goal. A throw in from Zolly saw Jon get to the byline and whip the ball over only for the 'Hengrove 'keeper to clasp the ball as Jamie homed in. However, with twenty minutes gone

Hengrove got their equaliser. There seemed little danger as Jason got the ball out on our right flank, only for Ryan to be surprised by a low drive that flashed just inside his far post (2-2).

Ashley Bullock came off to be replaced by Mattie Batchelor. A good through ball from Mark saw Jon and Jamie exchange passes but Jamie's shot failed to clear the 'keeper. Then, with a quarter of an hour remaining, disaster struck. A nothing ball just bobbed in the box, Dan tried to clear but the ball just rebounded for Ben Crewe to tuck the ball home (2-3).

Hengrove had come back well, were looking the stronger team, and really had their dander up. Dave told Zolly to push forward, and we were rewarded almost immediately. A good run down the right flank from Jamie produced a cross that Rich won and Zolly laid back to a Fry player, 25 yards out and in space.

Now this was where you might expect Jack to be, to smash the ball in to the top corner of the net; but no – it was Phil ghosting in. Quickly calculating wind speed, trajectory, the height of the 'keeper, and remembering to keep his eyes open, he astutely applied backspin to his shot. Mattie leaped only to find that the shot hadn't yet arrived. By the time it did, he'd landed and the ball had dipped just under the bar (3-0) – pure skill (regardless of what Steve Payne says).

In to the final ten minutes and we were set for a barnstorming finish. Passions were roused; exhortations from players and supporters alike reverberated round the ground. Both defences rose to the challenge as tackles and headers were won to keep the attacks at bay. Then, with not much more than five minutes remaining, Jon got a knock down and Jamie, from 15 yards out, hit a rocket shot home (4-3).

Surely that was the killer blow? Surely we could hold out? Well, it's an old football adage that a team is at it's most vulnerable just after they have scored. So, what happens? A minute later and Jason zooms through towards goal. Dan lumbers across, slides in and Jurgen, sorry – Jason – goes down. So what if Dan did catch his ankle? OK, so it was a penalty, but come on Rich – buy Jase some longer studs!

Kevin stepped up, and Ryan – obviously expecting a blast down the middle delivered with the power of about 16 stone of muscle behind it – wisely dived out of the way. So, it was a stroke of luck that Kevin had blasted it low just inside

Ryan's right hand post and that as Ryan tried to cushion his landing, the ball struck his hand and went round the post. Either that or it was a brilliant save from a well-struck kick! I guess that the congratulations that Ryan received indicated what the players thought.

Ryan punched the resultant corner kick clear and followed up a minute later with another fine save at Jason's feet, as Hengrove piled on the pressure in the final minutes – but we held on to clinch the three points.

FULL-TIME: HENGROVE 3 COLTS 4

MAN OF THE MATCH

Ryan's wonder save and general agility and handling would no doubt have won a few votes if we'd had a committee to decide.

In defence, Mark did things simply and effectively - tackle like a brick wall and win the balls in the air. Tom was solid, apart from when he was being very solid.

Dan had a good first half but then, by gifting Hengrove two goals and a penalty, you would have thought that he would have ruled himself out of contention, but with Scot as the adjudicator, you're never sure!

Assists in two of the goals (ours, not theirs' on this occasion) and scoring as well must have put Phil in contention.

In midfield Gareth battled strongly, Jack played some good balls and didn't neglect his defensive duties, while Rich – as usual – was everywhere.

I thought that Zolly had a good game, particularly the first half. Sometimes he seems to go up too many blind alleys, but today he was in sparkling form.

Up front both Jon and Jamie worked tirelessly and caused the Hengrove defence all sorts of problems.

Even Joe was in with a shout for remembering to return both the Man of the Match and Rounders trophies! Seriously though, even though they didn't get on today Greg, Joe and Ross were there if we needed them.

So, congratulations to you all for a 9.5 out of 10 performance, and in particular to Scot's choice as the Man of the Match:

JAMIE BRYANT

Afterthoughts.....

I thought that this was a cracking match. If we can take this form in to the Patchway game in a fortnight's time then we should be in for a good game. Next Saturday it's the Cup and we've got a first round bye. I'm off to see the Winford v Hengrove game (Hengrove Athletic v Whitchurch is the other tie).

U16 TEAM FACTS

F = Played the full game

B = Began the game but was substituted

P = Played in the game after coming on as a substitute

S = Non-playing substitute

M = Man of the Match

L = League goals

C = Cup goals

	F	B	P	S	M	L	C
Ross Ashman	1	1	2	3		2	
Steve Bacon	1	1					
Jamie Bryant	3	1	2		2	6	
Joe Garland	2	2	1	1		1	
Jack Gooding	7						
Tom Hamblin	4	1	1		1	1	
Rich Healey	4	1				3	
Phil Knight	4		1			1	
Dan Payne	7						
Ryan Perry	6	1			1	3	
Steve Pillinger	1		1			1	
Jon Pitt	6		1			7	
Jay Slade	4				1	2	
Gareth Smith	4	2					
Greg Tucker	2			2	1		
Zolly Vanyai	6					2	
Mark Webb	5		1				
Own goals							2

LIFTS TO AND FROM GAMES

I can get rid of the stench of unwashed bodies from the Grahamobile by opening the windows. The mud on the seats and carpets requires more effort – and I'm not prepared to supply it.

So, if you want a lift then bring a change of clothes and don't walk mud in. Players not complying don't get a lift with me.... and you may find you get the same response from Dave and Andy..

Fixtures

Sep	15	H	Hengrove Boys	3-1
	29	H	Whitchurch	7-0
Oct	6	A	Winford	1-2
	27	H	Hengrove Athletic	12-0
Nov	3	H	Patchway	1-6
	10	A	Whitchurch	3-2
	17	A	Hengrove Boys	4-3
	30	A	Patchway	
Dec	8	H	Winford	
	15	A	Hengrove Athletic	

Christmas break

Jan	12	A	Whitchurch	
	19	H	Hengrove Boys	
	26	H	Patchway	
Feb	2	A	Hengrove Athletic	
	9	A	Patchway	
	23		5-a-side competition	
Mar	2	A	Hengrove Boys	
	9	H	Hengrove Athletic	
	16	H	Winford	
Apr	6	A	Winford	
TBA		H	Whitchurch	

TRAINING

You'll probably find this hard to believe, but training night has been changed. Again.

For the foreseeable future (that means at least a week), training will be on a

WEDNESDAY

7.00 – 8.30

This is, of course evening training and not morning training, although this could, of course, change in due course!