



FRY CLUB COLTS

U16 MATCH REPORT U16

Number 1

Stapleton shock Fry's in opening league game

9th September 2002

Welcome to the new season - and particularly to our new players:

Ricky Lewis, an attacker/midfielder who joins us from Bristol Rovers Supporters' Club, and central defender Mike Tarling who was at Warmley last season.

U16MATCHREPORTU16MATCHREPORT
FRY CLUB COLTS
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DRG STAPLETON
U16MATCHREPORTU16MATCHREPORT

With Ricky not eligible to play until next week, Ross a long-term injury victim, we had 15 to choose from. Jason was given an extra week's rest to give his broken elbow a chance to heal, and we lined up:

Nick Frost

Joe Cook Mike Tarling Tom Hamblin Phil Knight
Rick Anstey Ian Field Dan Payne Jay Slade
Curtis Jack Danny Hunt

Substitutes:

Mark Webb (Phil Knight, 40), Liam Kavanagh (Jay Slade, 60), Ben Sinclair (Rick Anstey, 65).

DRG kicked off and did the initial pressing as we took time to settle down. However, with five minutes gone Jay won the ball on the halfway line, sprinted down the wing and crossed low and hard. Curtis turned his marker only to be denied a goal scoring opportunity by what looked, from the touchline, like a blatant handball. However, the referee must have been unsighted and waved play on.

Ten minutes in to the half and a DRG corner from our right was fisted clear by Nick at his near post. Joe sprinted clear of the penalty area with the ball, advancing as far as the edge of the opposition area before the move broke down.

Despite Fry's now having most of the possession, and what little territorial advantage there was, DRG were defending well and we couldn't get decent balls in to the front players.

It wasn't until 25 minutes had passed that we managed our first strike at goal, Curtis latching on to the ball on the edge of the area and working an opening to hit a dipping shot that cleared the crossbar by only a few inches. Five minutes later and another marauding run from Joe ended with Danny getting in a shot that the 'keeper acrobatically pulled out of the air.

With half an hour gone, Curtis and Dan swapped positions so we were looking at our more normal formation. Ian was next to try his luck, an attempted lob from 25 yards dipping just over the bar.

With just less than five minutes of the half remaining DRG got the opening goal against the run of play. Mike, out towards the right touchline, dwelt too long on the ball, and his attempted clearance was blocked. The cross in was deflected off Tom and past Nick who scrambled back towards his goal only for the ball to rebound off the post and in off him.

Straight away, we went searching for an equaliser. Joe was just off target with a drive from the edge of the area and a corner from Jay on the left rebounded off the crossbar and was cleared. The last kick of the half was another corner from Jay that this time struck the top of the crossbar, the ball going out of play.

HALF-TIME: FRY CLUB 0 DRG STAPLETON 1

A tactical change by at half time saw Phil coming off and Mark coming on to bolster the midfield as we switched to a 3-5-2 formation. Play in the first half had been robust at times and with five minutes of this half gone Ian was scythed down from behind, the culprit being yellow-carded.

Seven minutes in to the half, however, and we went 2-0 down when we failed to clear the ball and the DRG centre-forward held off the challenge of Tom to blast the ball past Nick from the edge of the area.

Almost a quarter of an hour had passed before we managed an effort on goal; Dan's ball in from the left was firmly struck by Rick, on the volley, but the ball flashed wide of the upright. Curtis was again only inches too high with an effort from 30 yards before a foul on Mark gave Tom the opportunity to try his luck from about the same distance with a free kick that cleared the bar by several feet.

With 20 minutes remaining, Liam came on to take up a central midfield position, Curtis moving out wide to replace Jay. Almost immediately, we clawed a goal back. An awkward bouncing shot from Ian was pushed round the post by the 'keeper and Curtis took the resulting corner on the left. Tom's header was cleared off the line, but only as far as Mike who rifled the ball home from eight yards. Two minutes later and history nearly repeated itself. A corner from Mark on the right dropped off the head of a DRG player straight to Mike. This time, unfortunately, the shot was charged down.

With a quarter of an hour remaining a foul on Dan saw swing in the free kick. The ball was headed down and Mark stretched but could only prod the ball past the post. Rick came off to be replaced, in a straight swap, by Ben.

Another free kick from Tom, driven low in to the defensive wall, and a shot from the edge of the six-yard box from Liam that passed just over the bar were our final efforts as DRG held out for victory.

FULL-TIME: FRY CLUB 1 DRG STAPLETON 2

Afterthoughts.....

Last season's final table shows that Brislington dropped only 11 points in winning the league:

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts	GD
Brislington 'A'	24	19	4	1	91	34	61	+57
Fry Club	24	17	5	2	84	24	56	+60
St Vallier	24	16	4	4	84	43	52	+41
Whitchurch 'B'	24	15	3	6	64	38	48	+26

Now we've dropped three points already this season. Last season we only lost twice - to Warmley who have now dropped out of the league, and to Henbury who we play this weekend. So, let's not have another upset. With all the pre-season friendlies we've had, we can't be unprepared; it must be training with the adults that have left us looking like losers - they're used to it!

Fry Club Colts Junior Football Club - 8th Sept

Fry Club U 10s	1 - 5	Henbury Old Boys
Fry Club U 12s	2 - 4	Frampton Rangers
Fry Club U13s	5 - 1	Warmley Rangers 'B'
Bromley Heath Utd	0 - 5	Fry Club U14s
Fry Club U16s	1 - 2	DRG Stapleton

U 16s - Fixtures and Results

Sep	8	H	DRG Stapleton	1-2
	15	A	Henbury Old Boys 'B'	
	22	H	Avon Athletic	
Oct	29		League Cup 1 st round	
	6	A	Whitchurch Sports 'B'	
	13	H	St Vallier	
	20	A	St Nicholas 'A'	
	27		League Cup - 2 nd round	
Nov	3	H	Thornbury Falcons	
	10	A	Bitton Boys 'A'	
	17	H	Whitchurch Sports 'A'	
	24	A	Brislington Juniors 'A' (or League Cup 3 rd round)	
Dec	1	A	Bamfield Sports	
	8	A	DRG Stapleton	
	15	H	Henbury Old Boys 'B'	
Jan	5	A	Avon Athletic	
	12	H	Whitchurch Sports 'B' (or League Cup QF)	
	19	A	St Vallier	
	26	H	St Nicholas 'A'	
	Feb	2	A	Thornbury Falcons
		9	H	Bitton Boys 'A'
	16	A	Whitchurch Sports 'A'	
	23	H	Brislington Juniors 'A'	
	Mar	2	H	Bamfield Sports
9			League Cup SF	

The new boys to the First Division found it hard going, Bamfield going down to champions Brislington, and St. Nicholas on the end of a stuffing from St Vallier.

Avon Youth League U16s Division 1

Bamfield Sports	0 - 4	Brislington Juniors 'A'
Bitton Boys 'A'	0 - 2	Avon Athletic
Fry Club Colts	1 - 2	DRG Stapleton
St Nicholas 'A'	0 - 10	St Vallier
Thornbury Falcons	1 - 3	Whitchurch Sports 'B'
Whitchurch Spts 'A'	5 - 4	Henbury Colts 'B'

U18 Youth Team

Success for the newly formed U18 team in their first league game of the season, at home to Nailsea, with Jon Pitt scoring twice in a 4-1 win.

Meanwhile, if you think Sven-Goran Eriksson has problems trying to find someone to play on the left of midfield, spare a thought for Bernie Grimes and Fry Club reserves. Bernie is on the lookout for a centre-half. Despite fielding six of them at the weekend, the reserves still conceded three goals to go out in the 1st round of the League Cup to Churchill Club 70 (3-2).

That's all for this week.