



# FRY CLUB COLTS

# U11 MATCH REPORT U11

Number 11

No One Here Gets Out Alive

Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> October 2007

HALF-TIME : ST NICKS 'B' 0 FRY S 3

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Because of my announced changes after the St Nicks 'A' game, Sam B & Mark decided the time had come to seek a game elsewhere and we wish them the very best of luck with that. Unfortunately this left us with just ten players on the day as Chilly was away with school camp, Dan was away with Cub camp and neither Aaron's nor Charlie's transfer had come through yet. It meant a tough game for the 10 players and a reshuffle to the formation. I reasoned that we play 4-4-2, so always have two spare at the back just like the opposition, when really we only needed the one spare at the back. I was asked if I was going to play 4-4-1, to play a defensive game not to lose, but explained my reasoning, and went out with an attacking formation

The line up was:

	Joby			
Jack	Callum	Joel		
Spike	Sam	Tom	Max	
	Josh	Joe		

We did a great attack, with Joel winning the ball and finding Tom. We shouted to Joe to stay outside so he checked his run before Tom played him in down the left, however his shot was low and at the 'keeper. They attacked in response and overloaded the attack, but when the high shot came in, we were fortunate that it was wide. We attacked down the right and Sam found Spike. Spike crossed it in and Josh helped it left towards **Tom**, who beat a player and unleashed a shot from twenty yards. This wasn't a chip or a loop, this flew straight and was still rising when it found the top right corner **0-1**. We then took a goal-kick which Tom helped on and Sam got his toe to it and played a lovely ball through which Josh chased, however as he entered the box a sliding tackle came in from behind and cleanly took the ball. Our linesman, who was actually the official ref's dad, which was nice of him (thank you Yate Utd U12's manager), felt that it was a foul, but the ref let it go. Then another great move down the right saw a ball through for Tom, but he was also tackled as he tried to shoot. They then attacked at us, but Joel put in a mighty saving tackle. They attacked with more sustained pressure and were through. Joby could have rushed off of his line but stayed, however he stood as big as he could and used his body to make the block, before Jack & Callum combined to clear it. Joel played a ball forward to Joe. He played a one-two with Max before running down the line, but was forced to concede a goal-kick. The kick was not a strong one however, **Tom** won it, ran left past two defenders and from an acute angle hit it hard and high over the 'keeper, this time into the top right corner of the net **0-2**. They attacked and Jack cleared it wide right. They thought it was going out but Spike managed to get his head to it and flick it down the line for Sam to run onto. He crossed it in and Josh made a play at the near post. He missed it but it put their defenders off and **Max** then found the far left of the goal **0-3**. Joby took a goal-kick towards Joel who turned his marker and was away. He played Joe down the line and Joe closed in on goal and shot, but unfortunately it was always going wide.

We attack early down the left and Tom played Sam through, however he was brought down just outside the area. Tom shaped to kick, but I told Sam to take it as I wanted it to curl inwards. **Sam** hit it and the 'keeper got his fingers to it, however it dropped down and we shouted goal, however Josh made sure. I asked Josh if it was already in and he very sportingly said that it was **0-4**. Tom went down the left and was brought down. Jack went forward for the free-kick which Tom placed perfectly. Jack ducked his head to hit it, however completely missed it, only to see Spike at the back post to score. We then saw the linesman's flag raised for offside. I questioned him about it as Spike had clearly been outside, however Jack had been offside and right in front of goal, putting the 'keeper off and therefore interfering with play. They kept pressing to get back into the game and were through, only to see Joby bravely dive at their feet and make the clearance. Tom, Joe, Max & Sam played some lovely football, passing the ball amongst themselves, and then eventually it came to Sam. He shaped to shoot, and the defender bought the dummy, before chipping a brilliant ball over for Max to run onto, however this time the 'keeper was out really quickly and just got there ahead of him. A goal-kick was intercepted by Spike on the right. He played it inside to Josh, and he carried it onwards to Tom. Tom looked to shoot but then laid it wide for Joe who chipped it rather than leather it and the 'keeper made a great diving save to deny him. Another goal-kick again came to Spike. He played a one-two with Josh before being surrounded by three players. He battled well and was eventually brought down just outside of the area. As it was on the right, I told **Tom** to take the kick **0-5**. They didn't stop trying however and were through. Callum came in with a great sliding tackle to get the ball, very similar to theirs in the first half, however this time the ref adjudged it to be from behind and gave the penalty. They hit it high and Joby got his hand to it, pushing it up onto the crossbar and down on the line. He tried to recover to make the second save, however one of their players had followed in quickly and just got there ahead of him 1-5. They were lifted by this and piled on the pressure. One period of play saw us fail to clear it and a player on the edge of the area hit it hard and high, however it sailed about a foot over the bar.

FULL-TIME : ST NICKS 'B' 1 FRY S 5

Man of the Match – Chosen by Andy for excellent play and effort – <b>The Whole Team</b>
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*Afterthoughts.....*

*At the final whistle I have to admit to being very emotional and when saying the whole team had won Man of the Match, struggled to get my words out. That was probably the best performance I have ever seen from my team, and as we know there have been some great days. Everything that we could ask for happened, with our ten players putting their heart and soul into the game. We tired near the end, but even then the only way that we conceded was via a penalty. If our players put that much effort into every game, we won't go far wrong this season. But it wasn't just effort, it was passing and vision as well. To quote Vinny Jones, "It's been emotional"*