

Number 33

King Of The Road

Sunday 11th May 2008

U11 MATCH REPORT U11 MATCH REPORT ST NICK'S 'A' V FRY CLUB COLTS U11 MATCH REPORT U11 MATCH REPORT

Last season we came here on the very last day with St Nick's 'B' 4 points behind us, and went 2-0 up at the halfway stage, before losing 3-2. This year we came here on the very last day, 4 points behind St Nick's 'A'. What would happen.....? Chilly had a family event that he had to go to.

The line up was:

Joby

Dan	Aaron	Jack	Joel
Callum	Josh	Sam	Max
	Tom	Joe	

Subs: Charlie & Spike

A bit of to and fro before we had a corner on the left. Sam knocked it in, Jack controlled it and played it back out to him. It was on his left foot so he hit it in with that and it ran across goal past everyone, and Max on the back post just got his toe to it, but with not enough purchase and it went wide. They hit a high ball forward which Tom & Josh both went for but both missed and suddenly they were through. Aaron went after it and saw the player just behind him on his right, so he tried to block him off, but didn't see the second player on his left who got past him and hit it past Joby in off of the post 1-0. They broke away down the right and Aaron went across to make the challenge but got injured. Jack went over and they cut inside of him, and from a narrow angle shot, but Joby made the save. Not long after Aaron asked to come off. Callum forced their attacker to concede a throw and he took it quickly to Sam who ran down the line and hit it across the face of the goal, but we had three players who all failed to gamble on the chance and it went wide. We were in their left back area, but they broke out and hit a long ball to their forward. Two players went to challenge him, but he missed the ball completely, and another player had gambled on the ball behind him and he was clear away. He ran down the line and in unchallenged, before burying it beyond Joby's dive 2-0. Jack took a big throw which they half cleared to the edge of their area where Joe controlled and shot. It was at the keeper and only our second shot with half-time almost on us. Tom got the ball in the middle and saw Spike haring down the right wing. He found him with a perfectly threaded pass between four defenders and Spike shot towards the far post which the 'keeper dived to make a stunning save. Joe came in at the back post from the narrowest of angles and chipped it back across goal where it hit the back of their player and dropped for their 'keeper. They kicked out which Tom headed down for himself to shoot, but their 'keeper dived and saved it. Tom then had a 20 yard shot which the 'keeper parried, but he managed to grab it as Josh charged in

HALF-TIME : ST NICK'S 2 FRYS 0

We passed the ball well with Tom fouled on the edge. Sam hit a high ball in from the kick and Max challenged their 'keeper but he was taller and

he caught it. They then hit a ball through and none of our players got there, but Joby raced out and cleared the danger. Sam won the ball and passed it across the area to Max who shot, but it went just past the post. The ball was played into their box and Aaron flicked it wide to Josh who ran through a challenge and poked it towards goal. The 'keeper got his hands to it and the ref said save, but in an honest gesture by their linesman, he flagged that it had indeed crossed the line and so the ref gave it. Thank you for the honesty of St Nicks, where other teams perhaps may not have 2-1. Joe then hit a great ball into the box to where Tom & Sam challenged for it and one of them got it right, to where Josh did an overhead kick. It bounced up to where we think Charlie was going to get his head to it, however their 'keeper lunged forward and just took it away at the last second. Another big throw from Joe into the area. Josh again made the challenge with the 'keeper to stop him from catching it and it came out to **Tom** on the edge where he hit it hard and low in off of the far right post **2-2**. They attacked into our area and Joel cleared it first, then it came back and Aaron got it. He went down the line with it for Joe, who carried it on down the line for Tom. Tom cut inside and then laid it back to Joe who took a touch and hit it for the far left corner 2-3. A corner came in which we failed to clear. Joel headed it off of the line and then Joby made a great save from the follow-up shot.

FULL-TIME : ST NICK'S 2 FRYS 3

Man of the Match – Chosen by Andy for excellent play and effort – Joby & Joel

Afterthoughts

So history sort of repeated itself with us the victors this time! We never stopped battling and I feel thoroughly deserved the win. We passed it more and more in the second half as we became the dominant team and it was good to celebrate our last game with a win.

It was a great way to end the season, and what a season it was. By far the longest season in terms of games, 35 in total. We had massive highs, such as winning at 5t Nick's 'B' with just 10 players, but also desolate lows with the 5-1 defeat at home to 5t Nick's 'A', which led to the changes in personnel, and 6-2 at home to Henbury, where I lost my temper with the team for the first time. What was encouraging however after our bad start, were things such as reversing both of the defeats mentioned above. Also, only three teams ended up beating us twice, and two of them went up to the 'A' Division! I know that it included a few friendlies, but at the end of the season we won eight and drew one of our last nine!

With so many games played, it was unlikely that any player would be an ever present, although well done to Max for making 34 of the 35, missing just the very first pre-season friendly, and to Joel, who didn't come on Tour, and so missed just those two games, making it 33 out of 35. I will name-check the following however: Callum, Joe, Joel, Max & Tom, all ever presents for the 23 League & Cup games, however well done to everyone, they all played with heart and determination, and they never let us down. Thanks, Andy