



FRY CLUB COLTS

U12 MATCH REPORT U12

Number 14 Walking with a friend in the dark is better than walking alone in the light. Sunday 15th February 2009

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With the weather improving, the Brays decided to make the most of it and get away for the weekend, which meant that Jay was asked to go in goal (although with Andy forgetting, he was actually asked about 25 minutes before kick off!). We had had words about the value of friendship and team spirit at training, and I was interested to see if it would have an impact either before, during or afterwards. It was a very muddy and boggy pitch, and just like Henbury, we knew that this would have an impact on the way both teams performed.

The line up was:

Jay
Dan Josh Aaron Joel
Spike Sam Tom Max
Andy Joe

Substitute: Kallan

From the start, they attacked and worked their way to the edge of our area, where a high shot was dropping in and Jay had to stretch up and make the catch, which he did, and held. He kicked it out to where Joel was waiting. His ball down the line found Joe, and his cross found Max, whose shot was blocked, all in the first minute. Joe's long throw came to Tom, and his shot was blocked towards Max, but he scuffed it a bit in the mud and the 'keeper gathered it. They won a corner which Jay did well to get to and palm down for Sam to complete the clearance. Max won the ball out and found Joe on the halfway. Sam sped outside of him and Joe's back-heel was good. He ran down the line and crossed. It went behind Andy and Spike was there with the shot which was blocked to Tom who hit a thunderbolt, which the 'keeper was unable to hold, but no one was close enough to take advantage. Corner to save in about fifteen seconds! Joe's big throws were causing them all sorts of problems, and his latest was flicked on by Tom for Sam to head goalwards, but the 'keeper made the save. Joe's next throw was chested down by Tom to turn and shoot from a narrow angle, but the 'keeper saved for a corner. A long corner came over to the back post where Josh was waiting. He returned it and Aaron shot, but just over. Their 'keeper under-hit his goal kick and Joe won it. His shot was held by the 'keeper but his next kick was won by a combination of Tom, Sam & Max. Max played it in to Andy who dummied and turned, beating the defender, but the 'keeper made another save, followed by a block on the line from another shot and cleared, but it was fantastic play to watch. Spike's hard work down the right forced a corner and this time Joe swung it in. It was headed clear so Aaron attempted an overhead kick, but unfortunately it dropped not far over. Tom battled hard through two challenges and got the ball to Sam, but his shot was just wide of the left post. We forced a throw on the left which Joe launched and Sam flicked on into the area. Andy

challenged a defender and the 'keeper and got his foot to it, flicking it on past them, but it hit the right post and came back out again. At last the pressure told. They had played the ball down our right, but Dan cleverly ran across the attacked, delaying him (legally) enough for Aaron to get there and play it down the line for Spike. His cross in was cleared only as far as Tom who shot hard for the far left post, which he hit and it bounced back into the area, and finally we were the first there, as Max beat the 'keeper at his near post 0-1.

HALF-TIME: BROMLEY 0 FRYS 1

They hit a ball over the top. Aaron got there first and got it back to Jay, however it stuck a bit in the mud and his clearance wasn't far. There player picked it up and shot, but Jay, running back to goal, turned to watch it, and was able to set himself for the catch. They attacked again, down the right and crossed it over. Jay dived out to it and missed, but in doing so put off their attacker who also missed it, and then Dan got a goal-line block in for a corner. We worked hard into the right corner, but Tom's ball to Joe by the line saw Joe offside. Joe started to walk back as they took the kick, which wasn't far enough and the ball was played back into the corner to where Joe still was. He took a touch, and then shot hard and high for the far post, over the 'keeper and in 0-2. Josh won the ball just inside their half, shimmied past two players and played a lovely ball through for Andy, whose shot was in off of the post, but the flag was up for offside. We lost the ball out on the left and suddenly had players out of position. A ball over the top saw them in and although Jay came out it was hit past him. Spike ran in with their attacker and made a challenge on the line with him to try to stop it, but it just ran over 1-2. The ball went wide to Joe, almost out on the line and he hit it high back into the middle, but it dropped perfectly over everyone in at the back post 1-3. Sam charged forwards but was brought down 30 yards out. He took it, and Tom flicked it on just a yard out, but just the wrong side of the post. Aaron won on the ball halfway and got it to Sam. Sam then surged down the middle at them, past two challenges and just unleashed one, high at the 'keeper, but too fast for him to react and it was in the roof of the net 1-4. They were not giving up though, and a run down their right saw a high ball into the box, which Jay held very well. Sam worked hard down the right and forced a throw which he took quickly to Spike. He beat his man and cut inside, then ignored my shouts of cross it, and shot over the 'keeper and in the net 1-5.

FULL-TIME: BROMLEY 1 FRYS 5

Man of the Match – Chosen by Tony for excellent play and effort – Jay Skinner

Afterthoughts.....

How we weren't five up by half-time I'll never know, although to be fair, they defended well. We drew 5-5 with these near the end of last season and I said what a fun game to watch. I'll say the same again, as both teams played attacking, attractive football, but this time we took our chances, but stopped them. The conditions were tough to move in, but I felt we handled it better, and helped with our domination. At the end I had to ask for someone else to call Man of the Match, as I just couldn't, everyone had played so well, but Jay was a worthy winner, making crucial saves at the right moments.