



# FRY CLUB COLTS

# U13 MATCH REPORT U14

Number 14    Never be afraid to try. Remember; Amateurs built the ark, Professionals built the Titanic.    Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2009

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In Somerset they have three County Cup's, one at U13 sponsored currently by Tesco, and then they have the Lewin Cup at U14 and the Youth Shield at U16. Unlike Gloucester however, they only allow one entrant per Club, so with three teams at our age group, this was always going to cause a problem. The solution for me came with the demise of the year up, and the Wanderers happiness at County Cup avoidance. What that meant was that the Juniors took the Club's entry into the U13 Tesco Cup, and we took the U14 Lewin Cup space (good luck by the way to the Juniors in the last 16 at Portishead Juniors). We could have drawn any U14 team, from the top of the 1<sup>st</sup> Division of the Woodspring Junior League (Cleveton Utd), to the bottom of the Yeovil & District Youth League 2<sup>nd</sup> Division (Wincanton), to the top of the 1<sup>st</sup> Division of the Taunton Youth League (Heathfield) to the lower half of the fourth division of the Avon Youth League (Broad Plain House - the lowest placed of the Bristol based Somerset teams across the five divisions), to the top of the Midsomer Norton Youth League 1<sup>st</sup> Division, a team who have won that title for the past three years, Frome Town Youth.....

The line up was:

|         |         |        |      |  |
|---------|---------|--------|------|--|
|         |         | Joby   |      |  |
| Charlie | Brandon | Reece  | Joel |  |
| Bryn    | Sam     | Aaron  | Max  |  |
|         | Jake    | Callum |      |  |

Substitute: Clappy

Josh was still injured, Jay had broken two fingers in his hand and Tom was ill, which is a shame as he, along with Callum, would have been as tall as almost half of their players. When I saw Joel line up against the 18 inches taller right winger, I felt that he may have a problem..... anyway, on with the report. The first thing we did was to walk all of the bottom pitches to find the best playable one, with pitch 8 finally being agreed upon, and with a bit of water stomping and poking, the referee agreed to start the match.

After a bit of play we won a corner on the right. Brandon went short and returned the ball to Callum at a better angle and he swung one in at the far post, which the 'keeper had to push wide. Joby kicked long and Aaron went wide with it and drew a foul. Callum drove it to the back post to where Max had two or three stabs at it, but saw it blocked each time. After an initial reticence, most probably due to their player's size, you could see our players start to grow in confidence as they fought and saw that they could hold their own. Callum hit a corner which the 'keeper dropped but just too far from Aaron. Joel returned it in with a flick on from Jake, however too many were in the way and it was cleared. A ball through was misjudged by Reece and they were through. Joby came out and forced them to slow which gave Reece time to get back and slide in, kicking it inwards towards goal, however crucially away from the attacker and that gave Joby time to recover his position and kick it clear for a corner. They conceded a free kick 35 yards out and held a line on the edge of the area. We told Callum to hit the area of uncertainty, the bit between the players and the keeper which in this case was the six-yard-line. He did that to perfection and **Sam** ran in at the back post to poke it past the stranded 'keeper 1-0. They tried to hit back instantly and a shot inside the box hit both Reece and Joby before rolling wide, well blocked! A ball down the left was flicked on by Sam to Max who went inside first time to Callum and further again to where Sam had run, and he returned it wide to Max who was

brought down on the edge of the area, stopping a wonderful one-touch passage of play. Callum elected to shoot hard and low, but unfortunately it was wide. Max then beat the right back and hit it in for Jake, but it was just too far ahead and the 'keeper got to it. They took a throw to a player 35 yards out. He went past one player and hit it as hard as he could. Unfortunately for us only one height, angle and speed of ball could have beaten Joby, and that was it 1-1. Joel threw for Max, who turned his marker and found Sam on the edge of the area shooting for the far right post, but just too wide.

### HALF-TIME: FRYS 1 FROME 1

They hit a ball into our area which Reece headed clear, then Charlie headed the return ball clear and finally a shot was wide. The wind, which had blown partially across the pitch in our favour in the first half had now turned totally into our faces. A ball across from their left to right in our area saw Joby race out and force their player to turn, then Clappy, Aaron & Sam all crowded in, allowing Joby time to get back on his line and eventually the ball was cleared. They attacked down the right, crossed for the left and eventually centred for a low shot, but Joby got his body behind the ball. Max was brought down outside of the area and Aaron took a quick ball for Callum and his attempted chipped was just reached by the 'keeper. Charlie played the ball down the line for Callum and he cut onto his left and drilled the ball across goal, but unfortunately just wide of the post. A call of hand-ball saw us all stop and they were through at an angle. Joby positioned himself well and forced them to shoot over. They hit a corner right into the middle on the line and Aaron headed clear and the referee blew for full-time.

### FULL-TIME: FRYS 1 FROME 1

With it being the County Cup, this meant a further 10 minutes each way, and if necessary, five penalties each followed by sudden-death. We played it back to Joel who tried a back-heel flick and mis-kicked it and they were in, however Aaron slid in and cleared it for a corner. We were caught by a long throw (typical) and a cross in was just missed in the middle and the player at the back post could only touch it wide. We lost the ball on the break and they were through. Joby's clearance cannoned back towards goal and Reece had to be sure as he cleared it out. They drove in a shot from distance and Joby dived full length to make the save, then recovered quickly to smother it as they charged in. It was still 1-1 as we changed ends again. They charged in on goal and Joby again stood strong and forced a corner. I asked the team to stand in one of three categories. Definitely no penalty, will if need be and really want to take one. Five players stood in the really want to take one and that chose the five. They scored, Brandon scored, they scored, Jake saw his saved, they scored, Aaron saw his saved, then they scored again winning the tie and meaning that Sam and Callum didn't take theirs.

### AFTER EXTRA TIME: FRYS 1 (1) FROME 1 (4)

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

*Afterthoughts.....*  
*Let's put our result into some context. Wessex Youth beat Bath City 10-2, Blackbrook Youth beat Pawlett Rebels 10-1, Nailsea Utd beat Westonzoiland Zebras 10-0, Wellington Youth beat South Cherington 13-0 and Heathfield won 19-0 against Congresbury - All U14 v U14 games. To have taken one the best teams in Somerset to Penalties, and in the manner which we did whilst playing a year up is a testament to the ability of our players. Their Manager couldn't praise our players enough afterwards and I have to agree. Had we had six players of their stature in our team instead of only two (and one of them missing!), I feel we could have won the game. It will be interesting to see how that competition pans out and how their subsequent results go. What was nice at the end was the good natured and warm feeling between both teams who I feel both knew that they had been part of a very good game. Best of luck to Frome for the rest of the competition.*