



FRY CLUB COLTS

U13 MATCH REPORT U13

Number 19 A man is insensible to the relish of prosperity 'til he has tasted adversity. Sunday 14th February 2010

U13 MATCH REPORT U13 MATCH REPORT
FRY CLUB COLTS
V
AVON ATHLETIC
U13 MATCH REPORT U13 MATCH REPORT

Tom was away skiing, Josh B & Sam were still injured and Max still had problems with his foot, and didn't really want to play if it could be helped, however was there in case needed. We had signed a new player during the week, so Josh Jewell found himself starting straight away. Jack Sharkey, another player who was considering joining us came to watch.

The line up was:

Joby
Charlie Brandon Reece Joel
Bryn Josh J Aaron Jay
Jake Callum

Substitute: Max

Bryn chased in and won the ball, passing it to Josh, and he found Jake. Jake attacked down the line at them but just as he was about to shoot, a tackle came in and it did enough that the shot was able to bounce to the 'keeper. The Avon defender had it and Aaron ran at him, winning the ball and attacking towards goal. Other defenders converged forcing Aaron to shoot early from the edge of the area and unfortunately it was at the 'keeper. Aaron then challenged their defenders and again won the ball, feeding it out to Callum who shot from a narrow angle, but again it was at the 'keeper. We had had lots of pressure and three shots in the first five minutes, so when the first goal finally came I suppose it was no surprise who scored it. They played the ball wide out of defence and the right winger crossed the ball early towards the edge of our box. Brandon ran across to get his head to it, however it was spinning as it flew through the air, and that spin just took it behind his run despite his desperate attempt to lean backwards, and it fell to an unmarked player six yards out. He actually scuffed the shot, but he was close enough that Joby couldn't do anything about it, and it rolled into the bottom left corner 0-1. The second goal was almost a carbon copy. This time the ball was crossed in low, and Brandon was set, however an attacker ran past the ball and it caught the back of his calf, and that caused the ball to bounce up just slightly, but enough to take it over Brandon's foot, and again to an attacker unmarked behind him, and he passed it into the far right corner 0-2. We hit a ball over their right wing, and crossed it in, but just to close to their 'keeper. They then did the same to us, and their player was in behind Joel, but Joby stood tall and as they shot, snake out a hand and managed to stop it, and Reece completed the clearance. To be fair, although we were two down, to be fair it was pretty end to end stuff, they had just managed to convert two of their chances. Callum had a throw on the left and we shouted go Jay, and Jay ran with it down the line, eventually winning a throw down by the corner. Callum delivered as usual, and Jake kind of did an overhead scissors kick, and it flew into the bottom tight of the goal 1-2. They hit a ball over the top with their winger having the pace on Joel, in on goal where Joby got his hand to it, but it went left and wasn't cleared, and another shot saw Joby again get a hand to it, but it rolled onwards and into the net 1-3. They knew that their right winger had the pace on Joel, and we didn't seem to wake up to this and another ball over the top saw their player into the box and he shot into the bottom left 1-4.

HALF-TIME: FRYS 1 AVON 4

Due to injuries we had to make big changes, with Callum dropping into midfield and Reece going upfront in an effort to keep him on the pitch. Aaron went into defence and Jay went up front.

Joby
Charlie Brandon Aaron Joel
Bryn Josh J Callum Jake
Jay Reece

We had a throw into the box which saw a few players fighting for the ball but no one won it and it was cleared out to Callum who was fouled. He took the free kick himself from about 30 yards and it bent away from the 'keeper, but just the wrong side of the right post. They then hit a ball over the top into our left-back area and again pace gets them into a shooting position, but luckily it was past the far left post. They had a corner into the back post, but the header went upwards and Joby was able to claim it. We then won a corner on the right, working "Corner#4" but unfortunately the final shot, which on this occasion was from Brandon, was scuffed. What we saw though was a routine which worked perfectly, it was only the final execution which went awry, which bodes well for future set plays. Joby took a goal-kick wide to Bryn who kept it in by the line and went down the line for Reece. He crossed it towards goal, and their keeper looked odds on to get there first and kick it away, however it bobbed and his kick was scuffed left. Callum went after it and shot first time from an acute angle, but unfortunately it was into the side netting. Their goal-kick was headed upwards and we attacked, Callum heading it forwards, however their defender got to it and launched it long and the bounce deceived Brandon. Their attacker was in on goal and Joby came out, making himself as big as possible, and the forced chip was placed wide. They had a corner which was hit out, but driven in towards the back post where Charlie waited, and he went to get his left foot to it and succeeded in diverting it up towards goal at pace, but luckily it was high enough to clear the bar! A goal kick from Joby was headed back, and their attacker spun and shot first time, forcing Joby into an acrobatic dive to his right, just getting his fingertips to it and pushing it around the post.

FULL-TIME: FRYS 1 AVON 4

Man of the Match – Chosen by Andy for excellent play and effort – **Aaron**

Afterthoughts.....

I feel that I'm right to look at this game in the context of missing players. Two of our "power" players were missing from the middle, and our only left sided midfielder was injured. With Josh B also injured, Charlie, who can use both feet, might have been considered to cover for Max, but instead sat right. Effectively we asked a series of players again to rotate positions as the game went on, and at the end of the game, only four players could hold up their hands and claim that they had played the whole game in their usual position. Added to that was Josh J's first game in three years, and I'm actually proud of the spirit of the team, especially in the second half, which saw major changes, and yet we were able to draw that half. I felt before that this was a must win game, given their position in the table, but chatting to their manager afterwards, he admitted that a lot of games at the start of the season had been hit by injury, playing games with nine or ten. They were finally emerging from that and they should soon be up in the middle. I take heart from that. We have been injury hit for the whole season, but especially so since Christmas, however I see a light at the end of the tunnel. I hope by our next game to have 14 players available (Jack did sign after the game) and not long after that 15 with the return of Sam. Unfortunately Josh B is still a way off, but with our virtually full squad, I feel that our results will improve.