



FRY CLUB COLTS

U14 MATCH REPORT U14

Number 27

If you never try you'll never know.

Sunday 27th March 2011

HALF-TIME: ST ALDHELMS 3 FRY 0

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Somerset Cup Quarter Final, and following on from a Taunton Youth League 1st Division side, then a Midsomer Norton League 1st Division side, then a Woodspring Junior League 1st Division side, we faced an Avon Youth League 1st Division side, one we knew, but had not properly faced (the rain abandoned match aside). Everyone was available including Ben, who pledged his signature to us before the game (welcome aboard) and so we readied ourselves.

The line up was:

Declan			
Josh	Aaron	Ben	Reece
Bryn	Sam	Tom	Max
Lorenzo	Callum		

Substitutes: Joel, Noah, Charlie & Elliot

We won the ball from the kick, attacked down the right and crossed in to Sam, who turned away from goal and laid Bryn in, but his shot was blocked. The ball then came to Callum with his back to goal and he back-heeled it for Lore, who held off the last defender and passed it past the 'keeper, but it went to the left of the post. Tom played a nice one-two with Callum to break through, but their last defender just got to it to clear, Ben headed it back at them, however they pushed it out to the left, past Reece, past Aaron's tackle and we backed away allowing them to get near our goal and they shot for the far bottom corner **1-0**. Callum swung over and out-swinging corner which their 'keeper came for and missed, and Lore was under it, but just too low, and his header flew over. Reece played Max down the line and he won a throw which Callum took to play Lore in down the left. He turned back and crossed it for Bryn at the back post to head back across goal for the far post, but it flew agonisingly wide. They then floated a long ball over the top again, and although we got tackles in, it dropped kindly for their player to smash in **2-0**. We played a great free-kick into their area and had two or three headers and attempted shots, before their player got it and launched it high and long, but luckily Dec stretched high to reach the shot. Their attacker wriggled into our area and unleashed a real power-blast which it flew at goal, and rung the upright as it flew back onto the pitch and was cleared. We attacked down the right with Josh supporting Lore well as they played one-two's to get a corner. Right on half-time they won a corner out on the left, and the in-swinger flew high over everyone, and despite Bryn's best efforts on the line, it went straight in **3-0**.

Ben headed a drop kick left for max to play Lore in down the line, but their 'keeper made a good save at the near post. Sam took a corner from the left but mis-hit it and it bobbed through everyone to Reece who laid it out to Lore, but his shot was again saved by the 'keeper. Ben played it out to Bryn, and he passed inside to Tom, who flicked Lore through, and he held off the defender and shot, but his curling shot went just over. Tom then went down the left and centred for Ben to shoot low and hard, but again the 'keeper made the save. We then forced a corner on the left which Sam swung inwards, and **Aaron** at the back post facing away headed it backwards into the top corner **3-1**. We then forced a corner on the right. Callum swung it in and Tom met it, but it was saved for another corner. This time **Callum** hit it further and it went straight in at the top left **3-2**. They broke through and Aaron challenged and it fell their way, then it bounced off of their player's hand but the ref said accidental and played on, then Noah went for a left footed clearance and swung at air, and they were in, but Dec pulled off a magnificent save to keep us in the game. Ben chased a ball down the left and would have been through if he had beaten the sliding challenge, however the player took the ball and Ben went down and instantly cried out in pain. The ref stopped the game straight away and it was clear that this was serious as ben said he'd heard a crack as he hit the floor. There was a 30 minute stoppage as paramedics were called and they drove onto the pitch, and after giving Ben gas & air, and strapping up his shoulder, he was taken to hospital, and we had 13 minutes left to get the last goal back. Callum touched it past a defender and lined up a shot, but their last defender got there to block for a corner. With virtually the last kick we had a free-kick which Callum hit towards the far post, Sam headed down and Aaron challenged, there was a bit of a melee, but it was eventually cleared.

FULL-TIME: ST ALDHELMS 3 FRY 2

Man of the Match – Chosen by Andy for excellent play and effort – Tom & Ben

***Afterthoughts**.....*
Unfortunately, you just cannot give teams at this level a three-goal lead, but that is what we did. Also, the injury to Ben disrupted us as we were in full comeback flow. I'm not saying that we would have gotten the third goal, but that big break took the momentum away from the game when we really needed it. I had to apologise to both Charlie & Elliot as it was too tight to bring them on. It's not something I normally would ever consider, but sometimes these decisions have to be made based on the state of play and the score-line. Finally I will apologise, as I take a lot of responsibility in my mind for the defeat. Knowing how St Aldhelms play, I switched the team about to counter their aerial attack, however the defence that I set were not used to playing in that way and looked unsettled. What I should have done is set our team out to play our way, and trust our players to be able to deal with whatever or however the opposition play, and it's something that I will do in the future.