



FRY CLUB COLTS

U15 MATCH REPORT U15

Number 02 It doesn't matter if a cat is black or white, so long as it catches mice. Friday 2nd September 2011

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After the successful round-robin, we had been unable to find opposition for the Friday, and then AEK Boco had pulled out with injuries on the Tuesday, meaning that our game with the U16 Colts would be our only proper warm-up game. To facilitate easy communication and changes we opted for four sets of 20 minutes, rather than two halves of 40. Ben came down with a bug during the day so had to pull out, and Callum had a trial game for Bristol Rovers on the next day and Keynsham in the league the next day, so asked to be rested, but offered to referee instead. Del Shepherd from Bristol Spartak had however expressed an interest in us, so came along to play.

The line-up was:

Harry			
Josh	Aaron	George	Reece
Noah	Bryn	Del	Max
Lorenzo	Tom		

Substitutes: Joel & Sam

A ball over the top from the U16's saw Ryan Howlett chase after it, but Harry was off of his line in a flash and just got there first. The U16's passed the ball around very well, forcing us to chase it without ever getting close, and then Aaron came for it and they slipped it behind for Elliot Etheridge to shoot, but luckily it flew wide. A high ball into our area saw Harry come to punch, and actually hit it up and behind him and it came down between Ryan and George, and luckily George was closer.

QUARTER-TIME: FRY U15's 0 FRY U16's 0

From a bad throw out George won it, lifted it over the defence, and Lore was away, however as Alan narrowed the angle Lore lifted it over him, but too high and it sailed over. Their kick out managed to evade our defence with a few flicks from the U16's and Elliot was in, lifting the ball past Harry and in 0-1. Bryn was caught trying to evade a challenge out wide on the right and won a free-kick. Aaron floated it high into the box and as Alan came, Sam flicked it past him and in 1-1. The U16's set Elliot away and he came against Harry who stood tall, blocking the first shot, and then saving the subsequent shot and holding on to it. Josh and Sam combined well down the right and got Josh to the line. He then cut it back to Sam who flashed it across the face of goal, and Alan's dive out was just enough to put Del off.

HALF-TIME: FRY U15's 1 FRY U16's 1

Josh's great throw was headed on by an U16 defender to Lore on the six-yard line, who headed it back out to Del, and he controlled it and lifted it past Alan, but just over. They past it around well, keeping possession and then a blind-side run down the left saw an attacker in, but Harry pulled off a phenomenal close range save. The U16's were building a bit of pressure and one of them spotted Harry off of his line and shot high, however Harry shuffled his feet quickly and got to just it to push it over.

3 QUARTER-TIME: FRY U15's 1 FRY U16's 1

Ray and Andy had words ahead of the last 20, as the first 60 had been a bit too laid back, and we responded well, attacking instantly. Del won the ball in the middle and played it reverse left for Max to run through, but he was just caught by Rob as he shot, and it took the sting out of it. They then passed it well and both Josh and Aaron couldn't get too it, and Ryan shot low for the far tight, but Harry dived quickly and pushed it wide. Lore chased down a cornered ball into the left and won it, laying it back to Max, and he passed it central for Del running in and he poked it right past the 'keeper, but just wide as well. Joel played it left to Del, and he found George inside who found Aaron running forward, and as he was tackled it fell perfectly for Lore on his left foot and he swept it in 2-1. George threaded the ball between two defenders, playing Max in, but he was forced wide, and his shot ricocheted back off of him for a goal-kick. Aaron chased a ball into the box and tangled with Alan, falling and calling for a penalty. The referee blew the whistle, and then showed Aaron a yellow card for diving! (Later admissions from some U16's exonerated Aaron and called into question the referee's decision making!!!) A great ball through, this time from Tom and Lore chased with Del, Lore shooting first, then Del following up to bundle it over the line 3-1. From the kick they passed it back and Lore was after it, knocking it past the last defender and giving Alan no chance 4-1. We passed it well and Del found Tom wide who shot. It was blocked back to him so he deftly lifted it over the 'keeper, but also just over the bar. George had the ball in traffic and so turned away and found Josh wide right, and he went down the line with support from Tom, and crossed it to the back post to where Del had positioned himself well and headed in from close range 5-1. Callum Hinder was sent away down their right, but Reece used his body well and was able to turn away with the ball.

FULL-TIME: FRY U15's 5 FRY U16's 1

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

Afterthoughts.....

Many parents called me after an hour complaining of being cold and hungry, and asking to end it early. I think the U16's wished that we had, as it was in the last 20 that we showed our true spirit and ability. We rotated the entire squad, most twice to keep players fresh, and although it meant positional changes, we coped very well. As for the match itself, I think that we dominated possession for most of the match, and yet the U16's probably had more clear-cut chances until the last 20. At that point we upped the tempo, and showed what we could do. My only concern is how many needed breaks due to lack of fitness, and with Keynsham coming Sunday, we need to push ourselves right to the end.