

Number 23 A single twig breaks, but the bundle of twigs is strong.

Sunday 25th March 2012

U15 MATCH REPORT U15 MATCH REPORT FRY CLUB COLTS V AVONMOUTH U15 MATCH REPORT U15 MATCH REPORT

It was a lovely sunny day, and for the first time we were in the Paddock. Aaron had been injured with a dead leg, but had come along and wanted to play, so we had full availability again.

The line-up was:

Harry Josh Ben Reece Joel Bryn Sam George Max Lore Del

Substitutes: Aaron, Noah & Tom

Avonmouth took the lead within just two minutes of kick off. We had forced them back with Bryn running down the right, inside his man and crossing it in, but no one could get on the end of it. They cleared left, and Max and Joel combined very well to stop them, but the ball spun loose to another player who crossed first time to the far side. Our defenders went across with the flight of the ball, so the attacker just headed it back across pitch just outside of our area, and another Avonmouth player smashed it low into the bottom right 0-1. Lore attacked into their area, passed to Sam who chipped it to the edge of their six yard area where a melee ensued with Del, Sam and George all trying to get onto the ball in a shooting position but it just didn't fall for us and they were able to clear. George ran left with the ball, Max took over, past the defender and crossed, but no one could get to it. The ball then fell to George on his right foot to volley from outside of the area, but it flew wide. Three consecutive corners were swung into their area, and on the third the 'keeper shouted, caught it, dropped it, but no one was close enough to poke in. Josh ran over the halfway line, passed towards Lore, and their defender seemed to intercept, but slipped and Lore was away down the right, raced through exchanging passes with Bryn before crossing, but their 'keeper dived out to catch it. Avonmouth had a corner which missed everyone and dropped to a player just six yards out, but somehow he managed to hammer it over. A great corner was swung in and it came to Sam on the edge to volley but it was blocked. We put more corners in, passing well, keeping it in the danger area, but the final shot wasn't quite there.

HALF-TIME: FRYS 0 AVONMOUTH 1

Bryn ran down the right with Josh's support, and sent over a cross for Noah to chip into the danger area, but they cleared it. We then won a free kick which Ben swung to the back post for a goal-wards header, but it lacked power and the keeper saved comfortably. They played the ball quickly to their right wing and we were suddenly exposed having over committed. It was crossed into the middle to where the first striker missed it, and the second hammered at goal, however Ben got there with a great block and deflected it over. They won the ball and attacked down the right and crossed, however luckily headed over. Tom won the ball and laid it out to Josh, and he linked well with Bryn who twisted left and right to beat his man, but fired the ball over with his left foot. Their 'keeper drop kicked massively, it bounced once, and Harry had to stretch high to stop it going over him and in. We threw Aaron on up front and went three at the back to get the goal back. A high ball forward saw Aaron win the flick on to Tom, he flicked it on to Lore, who beat the last defender and shot, and although the 'keeper saved it, it bounced up and Lore had carried on running and headed it into the net 1-1. Another ball over the top saw Lore lift it over the keeper, but with not enough power, and a defender raced back to head it over the bar.

FULL-TIME: FRYS 1 AVONMOUTH 1

Man of the Match – Chosen by Andy for excellent play and effort – Bryn & Max

Afterthoughts.....

They hit us early and caught us cold, although in fairness the ball fell kindly after Max & Joel had done what we thought was enough. After that we grew into the game and for me, they hardly had a look in, in the second half, although still held the lead. I was impressed by our play, and in my opinion a win would have been fair. Interestingly however, they had a totally different view. If you read their report, it makes it look as though we were in the game for the last ten minutes during which we equalised. Similar to Akira Kurosawa's masterpiece film Rashomon, I suppose there are always three sides to every story; our version, their version and the truth!