



FRY CLUB COLTS

U7 MATCH REPORT U7

Number 13 - From the American commander of Bastogne to the German commander. Nuts. - Sunday 15th February 2015

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BRISTOL SPARTAK
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Away again, this time to Spartak just up the hill from Keynsham, where parking is atrocious, especially with an U8 game and an U16 game all trying to cram into their very small car park down their very narrow road. Paul had been involved in a road collision in the week, and whilst everyone was okay, had decided to stay home to boost recovery and we wish him a speedy one. Andy had turned up to watch the boys and received some very warm welcomes.

The Game 1 line-up was:

Aaron

Charlie Finn

Liam Bradley W

Substitutes: Kruz & Bartus

From their corner Liam won it and passed forward for Charlie to race after, however their 'keeper just got there ahead of him. Charlie then attacked down the wing and was tackled, however it fell nicely to Liam, but his shot was narrowly wide. Spartak played a defence splitting pass and they were in on Aaron, however Liam surged back and got the tackle in at the expense of a corner. Bartus intercepted the corner and both Bradley and Liam were after it, **Liam** getting there first, shrugging off the last defender and then hitting it high across goal into the top left corner **0-1**. Aaron threw to Bradley, who turned and mishit the ball goalwards, but fortunately Aaron got down on it quickly. Spartak broke from our attack, and Liam chased, and as the attacker went around

Aaron, Liam got back on the line to block and clear, as at least two of our players stood and watched from their half! A really high ball bounced into our area, Aaron started to come for it but then the spin took it away from him and a Spartak player swung a foot and it looped up and over Aaron and fell into the net **1-1**. Charlie was played through but he elected to shoot early and from distance and the 'keeper was able to make the save. A long throw from the right ran across the face of the goal past everyone until a Spartak player came running in at the back post and smashed it in **2-1**.

HALF-TIME: SPARTAK 2 FRY 1

Aaron passed the ball to Bradley however unlike our players they did not retreat (it wasn't a goal kick so didn't have to) and they surged in on Bradley, and as he tried to turn a Spartak player nipped it off of him and smashed it in **3-1**. Liam was running back towards our goal and passed it inside to Finn, however it was to the wrong side of him and it set away two attackers, one of whom gave Aaron no chance **4-1**. Spartak had a corner which Charlie won and raced away, all the way to their goal, but unfortunately their 'keeper narrowed the angle and Charlie's shot hit him and was cleared. Spartak had a corner on the left and two of them took it short, and then came in at goal and our defence seemed bemused by the short corner concept and so just stayed in the middle allowing their player to get about three yards from goal and smash it in unopposed **5-1**. They won the ball from our goal-kick and smashed the ball through the crowd; however Charlie was on the line and stopped it for a corner. We reacted better to their short corner with Kruz going to tackle, however they still worked the angle and shot in **6-1**. We attacked as a team and their 'keeper got it and drop-kicked the ball all the way to their forward who had stayed on the edge of our area, and he controlled it and smashed it in **7-1**. Three of

our players attacked and Kruz shot which was saved, and so Fin chased in and the 'keeper just got there first. He then kicked it as hard as he could and Aaron mistimed the kick and it rolled in, completing two goals of very unattractive long ball football **8-1**. Charlie put pressure on their defender and won it, before forcing his way through and shooting, but unfortunately at the 'keeper. Kruz then worked down the left and his challenge saw the ball fall to Finn, but his shot was saved.

FULL-TIME: SPARTAK 8 FRYS 1

Man of the Match – Chosen by Gaz for excellent play and effort – **Finlay**

We were very short at the start of game two, but then three players turned up at the last moment having gone to the wrong location. Liam stayed on to help, and then Keanu got there for half-time to go in goal (another who had gone to the wrong location) and so we had three subs for the second half.

The Game 2 line-up was:

Tristen
Kaylum
James Bradley G Aran

Substitute: Tyler, Keanu & Liam

We started strongly, matching them and Bradley injured their 'keeper early on, forcing a change. Their star man was suddenly away against Kaylum, but he did enough to slow him down and that gave James, Aran and Bradley time to get back but he battled on and Tristen came to try to win the ball, however he shot and squeezed it in **1-0**. We passed our way forward and got to their 'keeper before Aran shot which was saved and so James followed up, but his shot lacked the necessary power and their 'keeper saved it again. They hit over a high corner which James decided to stop with his hands for some inexplicable reason, but fortunately the referee was lenient and said to carry on. We worked it forward through nice passing but were unable to get the shot away so they countered and Tristen pulled off a good save to deny them. James attacked down the wing, turned back and crossed to Liam to shoot from wide right, but it was just into the side netting. They won the ball wide on the left and their danger man attacked across pitch towards goal, however Liam chased him all the way and slid in with a vital block just as he shot,

conceding a corner instead. We forced them back with good play, however lost it near their goal and they had left a man forward and they hit the predictable long ball and he gave Tristen no chance **2-0**. We were defending and Aran broke out, past one player and ran all the way towards goal but his shot was well saved.

HALF-TIME: SPARTAK 2 FRYS 0

Bradley at right back passed it inside to Aran and he passed it forward to **James** who ran past a defender and smashed it past the 'keeper at his near post, with no pass more than five yards which was excellent **2-1**. The really good Spartak player attacked down the left and then subtly lifted the ball over Keanu for an excellent goal **3-1**. From kick off they won it back early and elected to shoot straight away, catching Keanu off-guard **4-1**. Aran won the ball on halfway, attacked into their half, shrugging off the defender and shooting well, but unfortunately into the side netting. From the throw we passed it well, working towards goal however they won it back and kicked it long, their best player smashing it high past Keanu giving him no chance **5-1**. **Bradley** attacked down the right wing before cutting the ball back into the middle where it was blocked back to him, so he shot past the 'keeper at the near post **5-2**. Bradley and Aran passed well before feeding James through, but again his shot was the wrong side of the post.

FULL-TIME: SPARTAK 5 FRYS 2

Man of the Match – Chosen by Lee and Mark for excellent play and effort – **Tyler & James**

OVERALL: SPARTAK 13 FRYS 3

Afterthoughts.....

I was very disappointed by the way that Spartak played against us, with the long ball tactic constantly employed. As for our team, in game one we held them virtually to half-time and yet by the end they had scored quite a lot, as we didn't seem to run so much or challenge as much. Game two saw Spartak again employ the long ball, but we switched on as the game went on, especially Bradley G, and that is the sort of understanding and decision making that we would like to see more of and once the long ball was neutralised it was a much more even game. Overall I don't think we deserved to lose by ten goals, however we tried to play nice attractive passing football, and at this age that is far more important than the score line so well done.