



FRY CLUB COLTS

U8 MATCH REPORT U8

Number 5 - **Singin' sweet songs of melodies pure and true** - Sunday 4th October 2015

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BRISTOL SPARTAK
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Spartak had asked us about the possibility of playing three matches as they had so many players. We only had one player missing so I agreed. I decided that this might be nice to try to utilise the school and social groups as best I could and so had a team from Castle, a team from Chandag & St Keyna and a team from Bitton & St John's. But what to name them? The Red's went first, the Blues second and thirdly the Purple Team (Red & Blue mixed...geddit?). Of course it didn't quite work out that way with late arrivals mixing the teams up slightly, but overall the idea was there. Bradley W was the only player unavailable.

The Game 1 line-up was:

	Keanu	
Ethem	Fin	Willstead
Cory	Bradley	G

Substitute: Liam

Early on Spartak forced a corner which resulted in a long shot which flew side. Keanu rolled out to Ethem and he passed across the Fin who slipped it forwards to Bradley and he took it past a player and laid it in for Cory's run however the 'keeper was quick off of his line. What was nice about that move was that it started with the

'keeper and all five players were involved in a passing move. They forced a corner and as it flew across Fin waved a foot at it from a yard out facing goal, it hit his foot but somehow managed to loop over! From the subsequent corner another shot flew in, it was blocked on the line but fell nicely to one of their players to shoot **0-1**. Ethem threw over their defenders and Bradley was heading for goal, but their 'keeper was quickly out and blocked at his feet. They then attacked from the loose ball, and whilst we defended well they got through to Keanu, who dived well, but the ball deflected off of his body and continued to roll in, only for Ethem to get around the back and clear off of the line. They attacked and a quick pass saw them through and calmly score **0-2**. Then they attacked down the left and all three of our player who were back went across, leaving an attacker free and the pass found him leaving Keanu no chance **0-3**. A pass forward to Cory saw him outmuscled, and the player advanced before hammering it from distance **0-4**. They had quite a few players who were simply bigger and stronger than ours, and one rode two tackles before firing in the fifth **0-5**. Liam attacked down the right and crossed for Cory, but it was cut out, they attacked down their right and crossed, and it actually hit one of our players and flew past Keanu **0-6**.

HALF-TIME: FRYS 0 SPARTAK 6

We attacked but they won the ball and forced their way through, past Fin who had stayed back and past Keanu **0-7**. We fell into exactly the same trap moments later, three over committing and the counter-attack yielding the same results **0-8**. Two

of their players had the ball at the back, but Liam was able to steal it off of one, and then as the `keeper charged out **Liam** calmly chipped the ball over him **1-8**. The ball was played out by their defence to our right and Liam was swiftly after it, and having won it played a sublime reverse pass to where Cory, a defender and the `keeper converged, however it was **Cory** who got the important toe **2-8**. Ethem passed forwards to Liam who played inside to Bradley, and he returned the favour for Liam to run on and shoot, but unfortunately just wide. Ethem won the ball and tried to run down the line, however lost it and they were three onto Cory and Keanu, and the goal soon followed **2-9**. Keanu threw to Ethem, who played Bradley down the line and he beat three players before finally conceding a corner.

FULL-TIME: FRYS 2 SPARTAK 9

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

Fin Wilson was late arriving and so Bradley G went in goal, with Fin moving to the third game.

The Game 2 line-up was:

Bradley G	
Tyler	Tristen
Aran	James

James won the ball as we were defending and ran across the pitch right to left before shooting with his left foot for the right corner, Aran ran across it and the `keeper missed it and so it rolled in **1-0**. They attacked strongly down their left with good passing and a shot at the near post squeezed in **1-1**. **Aran** was then fed through and went around the `keeper **2-1**. Spartak were quickly on the offensive again, and a high shot gave Bradley no chance **2-2**. From the restart James passed to Aran, who beat a player, passed back to **James**, who also beat a player and then shot high past their `keeper **3-2**. Aran defended and then went on a run before being brought down ten yards from goal. He took the free-

kick himself, high for the far corner, but just wide. They attacked and Aran won it before going past two players only to be denied by the `keeper, and then they broke from the save and Tristen tackled, and with the ball rolling out for a goal-kick Tyler managed to keep it in, however slipped in doing so and their man was in one goal, Bradley making a good save. Tyler played a great ball for Aran who beat a defender but his shot was forced wide by the attentions of another defender.

HALF-TIME: FRYS 3 SPARTAK 2

Tyler attacked down the left and shot, the `keeper saving and so Tristen followed up, but again it was saved. A ball down the left from Aran reached Tristen who passed inside to Tyler who had a great shot, but that was well saved. A ball through saw James away on the `keeper, however the `keeper was quickly out and saved smartly at his feet. **Aran** won the ball and went on a run down the left, before poking the ball past the `keeper into the bottom right **4-2**. We broke out and James ran left across the pitch and shot, however again the `keeper made the save. Aran worked his way through three tackles before being fouled, however he got the ball to Tyler, but his shot flew side. Aran attacked and shot, saved back to Tyler and he shot, but back out to James, so he went past a player but was fouled, and gave the resulting penalty to Tristen, who hit it well, but at the `keeper who saved. We overcommitted near the end and they broke away, however Bradley stood firm and made the save.

FULL-TIME: FRYS 4 SPARTAK 2

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

The Game 3 line-up was:

Finley W/Kaylum/Charlie	
Bartus	Aaron
Charlie	Kaylum

Substitute: Finlay M

Charlie worked hard to force his way through and got the ball to Bartus who shot just wide. Kaylum then attacked down the line before passing into the middle and again it was Bartus but this shot was blocked. They attacked and were in on goal, where the ball snuck past Fin W, however Charlie was back on the line to clear. Charlie worked hard to win the ball, passed to Bartus and he in turn found Kaylum who beat their last man, but then the 'keeper raced out and just got to clear the ball ahead of him. They had one standout player who had been left in defence to stop us, however one time he advanced on the counter-attack and passed the ball past Fin W **0-1**. They then forced a corner which when swung across hit Charlie on the knee and flew in! I asked Charlie if he wanted it to count on the goal-scorers chart, but he declined **0-2**. Charlie attacked into their area but was tackled, the ball falling to Bartus, but again wide. Their player attacked and shot, Fin W tried to pick it up, he missed and the attacker on the line tapped it in **0-3**.

HALF-TIME: FRYS 0 SPARTAK 3

Because of the score-line I asked their manager if we could go to six players and he agreed, although this numerical advantage didn't last too long as Aaron was forced off with an injury after about five minutes. Their best player jinked past two defenders and shot high, however Kaylum push the ball over the top right post. Charlie passed to Bartus and he found Aaron, however his shot was just wide. Fin W and Bartus forced their way through, but the final shot was just wide from Fin. They worked their way into our area with the ball and Fin W, who had hardly used his hands when taking his turn in goal, electing to use feet each time, decided that now was a good time to bend down and use his hands! The penalty was hit high into the corner **0-4**. A throw from Fin M to Fin W was passed to Bartus who worked hard to get past their best player, got it to Kaylum, but his shot hit the side netting. Bartus won a free kick which he hit high, but the 'keeper saved it, and then they shot from the edge of the area, Charlie half-saved, it rolled partially across the line,

touching the inside net as it did, however Charlie got his hands behind it with an inch of the ball not fully over. Their parents shouted goal, I, who was on that side of Charlie and in line so was the only person with the clear and correct view said that it wasn't fully over. At that point a torrent of abuse erupted from some of the Spartak parents and so Lee as referee gave the goal as to argue the point didn't seem worth it **0-5**. More on that later! The ball then fell to Fin W on the edge of the area and again it was saved. Near the end Kaylum forced the ball into the net however the referee had blown for a foul so it didn't count.

FULL-TIME: FRYS 0 SPARTAK 5

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

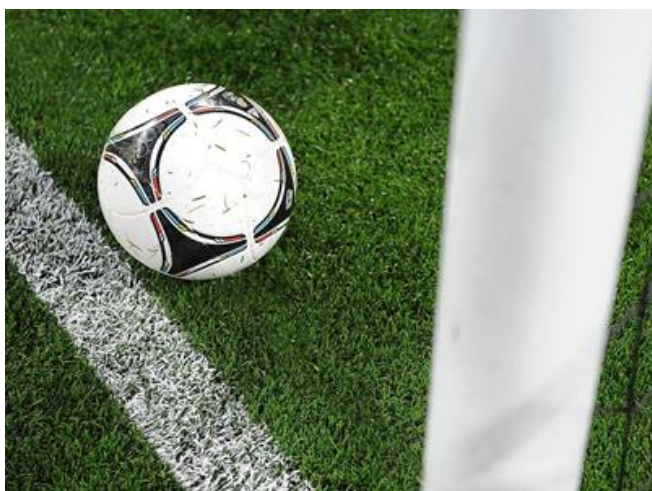
OVERALL: FRYS 6 SPARTAK 16

Afterthoughts.....
The clearest thing that I picked up from writing up these was how many times their three 'keepers saved them. This is not to criticise our 'keepers, but what it shows is that despite the score, we actually created many chances, especially in game 1. In game three it was the presence of one player who was clearly far better than the rest of their team and without him we could easily have had ten goals! What I am getting to is that regardless of the score, this was a lot closer than it seemed. They were most definitely not 10 goals better than us!

What upset us the most was not the score, but rather their demeanour on the sides, especially during the "was it over the line?" incident. I was the only one with the clear view, none of their side were in line and their view was obstructed by Charlie's body, and yet they launched into a vicious tirade, despite at the time being 0-3 up on the game and 6-14 up overall. We however are not ones to get into a shouting match,

*especially over a match of seven year olds!
Instead, I like to educate the uneducated:*

For a goal to stand the whole of the ball must be completely over the line. This can cause confusion when the part of the ball touching the ground crosses the line but the extremities do not. Therefore, the following photos portray this; the ball is NOT over the line:

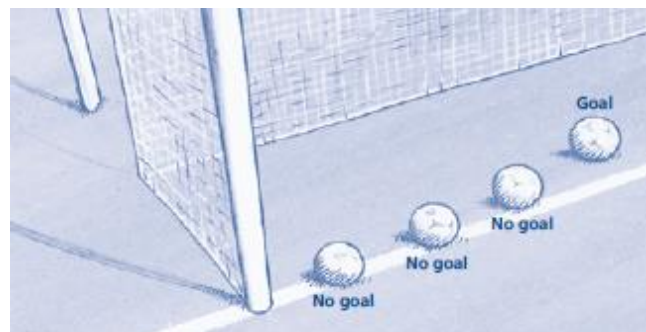


*If anyone doubts this, please feel free to visit www.fifa.com and read the 144 page Laws of the Game 2015-16 document where on page 35, under **Law 10 - The Method Of Scoring** you will read the following:*

A goal is scored when the whole of the ball passes over the goal line, between the goalposts and under the crossbar, provided

that no infringement of the Laws of the Game has been committed previously by the team scoring the goal.

Also on that page is this diagram:



Finally, I include a screenshot taken from an actual match where Lewis Holtby for Tottenham had his effort disallowed by the Hawk-eye system currently employed in football:



This law actually applies to all incidents of the ball in and out of play, so the same is for throw-ins, corners and goal-kicks. The whole of the ball must be over the line when viewed directly from above.

The problem we will always face at this level is the number of people who are simply not aware of the proper laws of the game. We simply have to grin and bear it!