



# **FRY CLUB COLTS**

## **U8 MATCH REPORT U8**

Number 7 - **That it isn't half of what it's going to turn out to be** - Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2015

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**BRISLINGTON JUNIORS**  
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**FRY CLUB COLTS**  
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And so it was finally here. We returned to the site of our heaviest defeat, but that was a year ago, and when all but two players had been training with us for just three months. We had seen the potential, but how much understanding and knowledge that we had imparted had gotten through? Today would be the test. They lined up differently to us, with one team facing the Blues in the first half and then their second team facing the Blues in the second half. The Reds then had the same experience in Match 2. Tristen and Fin M were not available.

The Game 1 line-up was:

Bradley W

Aran Charlie

Finley Wilson Keanu

Substitutes: James, Tyler, Finlay Willstead & Kaylum

It started with us on top, Aran winning the ball, forcing his way past three players and crossing for Keanu to shoot. Keanu then played Aran wide left, who beat his man but shot at the 'keeper. We over-committed and they were away, however Charlie hustled and the shot was well saved by Bradley. A bouncing ball came to **Charlie** near enough on the halfway line, and he decided to shoot high. The 'keeper had his hands up and looked to catch it, but it bounced out of his hands and into the net behind him **0-1**. **Aran** ran down the left, past two players and won a corner. He took the corner and swung a high ball in, and all the 'keeper could do was get a touch

as it swung in **0-2**. Brislington mounted an attack down the right and crossed a high ball, which bounced over Tyler and fell nicely to the player at the back post to hammer high into the net **1-2**. Kaylum and Tyler combined well to force a corner which Kaylum took. Tyler just missed it so it came to Finlay, and his ball back to **Kaylum** was met perfectly as his shot beat the 'keeper at the near post **1-3**. We attacked and their defence intercepted, passing it back to their 'keeper. He didn't pick it up and so Kaylum chased in, and forced the 'keeper into a panicked clearance. They then attacked, and a high shot was parried down by Bradley, who then dived down as the attackers charged in. Bradley rolled it out to Kaylum and he passed inside to James. He passed to Finlay who returned the favour and James was clear, pushed wide by the 'keeper, so he shot, it was blocked on the line and as both Finlay and Kaylum swung legs at it their 'keeper snatched it just in time. Near half time their corner found three different players who all shot, James blocking the first, Bradley parrying the second and Tyler stopping the third before Finlay cleared the danger.

**HALF-TIME: BRISLINGTON 1 FRY 3**

It was clear from the off that their second team were much stronger and we were under the cosh a lot more. From being on the back-foot however Finley broke out, ran all the way down the wing and shot, however the 'keeper made the save. Their big player approached the area and as he shot everyone turned their back, except Bradley who slid over with his foot and cleared it wide. From that throw Aran won it and ran across the goal, only to be tackled and the ricochet flew into the net **2-3**. Right on the three quarter mark we conceded a free-kick. We changed the subs over and they were getting into position when the free-kick was taken, from just inside the half, and yet their player still managed to find the top right giving Bradley no chance **3-3**. James attacked and was forced out

for our throw. Tyler took it to him and James forced his way through, however the shot was always going wide. From our attacking throw they broke and we chased back to concede a corner, which resulted in a shot that Bradley did well to gather. They had a throw, and because three of our players had come too close the throw took them all out of the game, and the attacker made no mistake as he smashed it past Bradley **4-3**.

**FULL-TIME: BRISLINGTON 4 FRY 3**

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

The Game 2 line-up was:

Kaylum  
Bradley G    Liam  
Bradley W    Aaron

Substitutes: Ethem, Cory & Bartus

A throw down the right saw Bradley G jink in and out of two players, but his shot was saved. A pass out to Bradley G saw him advance down the line and win a throw. That throw reached **Liam** who darted right past the defender before shooting low into the bottom left **0-1**. Brislington attacked and shot low, Kaylum electing to kick clear rather than save, and then Bradley G picked it up, went past a player and was away, up the pitch before cutting on to his left foot, but was tackled as he went to shoot. Liam threw all the way to Bradley W, on his right foot, but managed to angle his body for a left foot shot, only for the 'keeper to make a save. Brislington's big player ran down the line using his strength and pace to get past our players, but his shot flew across the face of the goal. Bradley hit a corner to Liam who powered it at goal only to see it blocked, and his follow up didn't have the same power. We went flying forward, Cory cutting past two players and shot but was blocked, so Liam shot with his left but it went back across goal to **Cory** who shot and it hit one of their players and went in **0-2**. They pushed forward and a shot flew in in past Liam and Ethem and an ultimately unsighted Kaylum **1-2**. We overcommitted again and were just not getting back allowing their big player to leather the ball at goal, and although Kaylum was able to get his hand to it, he could not prevent it from going in **2-2**. Liam attacked forwards drawing defenders to him, before slipping the ball inside for Cory to control, in to the 'keeper and passed it past him, only for it to hit the post and come

back to the 'keeper's arms. Kaylum threw to Ethem who tried to pass forward but was blocked so instead went sideways to **Liam** who ran down the line, cut on to his right and shot, the ball flying in off of the inside post **2-3**.

**HALF-TIME: BRISLINGTON 2 FRY 3**

As with match one we were under more pressure in the second half, and after they had forced a corner, we won it and broke away, Bradley, Bradley and Cory flying forward. They passed between them to force a corner but then they broke, but Kaylum did enough to delay them whilst we got back to block the threat. We were passing out but it was intercepted and Kaylum reacted very well to push the shot around the post. A high corner was the result and Kaylum parried the ball away. From another of our corners Brislington broke again, and again it was Kaylum who saved up with a low dive. The resulting corner flew over past a defender and the attacker in the middle had a clear shot from close range **3-3**. We won the ball and attacked, only this time all four players flew forwards, which meant that when we lost it they had a clear run at goal, and although Kaylum narrowed the angle, the ball went in off of the post **4-3**. From the kick we lost the ball, and a long pass across the pitch saw an attacker finish the game **5-3**.

**FULL-TIME: BRISLINGTON 5 FRY 3**

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

**OVERALL: BRISLINGTON 9 FRY 6**

**Afterthoughts.....**

*What can we say after such a match? To use high-jumping terms, how high were we going to set the bar? This was how we measured our progress over the last year, from a 26-1 first match defeat to an 9-6 defeat just a year later! Now obviously we cannot expect that same improvement jump again as this first year was always going to be the steepest in terms of gradient increases, and whilst this coming year will still see improvements, it will now slow down to match most other teams.*

*To the match itself, and these are strange matches when you play two opposition teams who are so obviously different in ability, but at the same time. It means you can easily win one half and massively lose the other, or vice versa, and whilst it wasn't an enormous gap, the difference was there to see. I believe that had we taken the chances that we created in the first halves, we could have won overall, but a combination of good defending and 'keeping on their half ensured that we didn't. The overall winner came as it so often has, by our players all over-committing and not holding our defending positions, but that does not worry me, as these are the things that we can work on and rectify with age and maturity. For me, everything still bodes very well!*