Number 18 - Got to give them all we can 'til the war is won - Sunday 28th February 2016

U8 MATCH REPORT U8 MATCH REPORT LONGWELL GREEN COLTS V FRY CLUB COLTS U8 MATCH REPORT U8 MATCH REPORT

We made the short trip to Longwell Green on a cold but bright Sunday morning. Andy was unable to make it, and in the end we had a full squad turn up to play. With many thanks to Longwell Green we played 6 v 6 in the first game and 7 v 7 in the second game meaning they played both games without a substitute.

The Game 1 line-up was:

Alfie

Cory Tyler

James Aran

Substitutes: Bradley W, Tristen & Keanu

We kicked off, James passed the ball out wide to Aran who used his pace and skill to get to the bye-line before crossing the ball to a quick moving Bartus who passed the ball into the corner of the net to give us the perfect start **0-1**. Longwell Green were trying to pass the ball and were playing good football and were attacking us down the wing. Cory got a tackle in and passed wide to James who cut inside and took on two players before passing to Aran who went around one player before shooting over the bar. The Longwell 'keeper took a big kick which bounced over our players and it looked like the Longwell player was going to have an easy tap in but Alfie was quickly out and got to the ball before the attacker, to prevent a certain goal. Alfie then rolled the ball to Tyler who looked up and saw James in space. He beat his man and put Aran through who with a deft touch took two players out of the game and was clear on goal. He then waited for the 'keeper to come out before placing the ball past him to nestle in the back of the net **0-2**. Cory made another great tackle, passed the ball on to Bartus who moved the ball on to James and in a blink of an eye we had gone from defending to attacking. James beat one player and shot only for the 'keeper to make a good save. The 'keeper kicked the ball up-field, Cory watched the bounce and cleared the ball which hit Aran in the stomach and rebounded to a Longwell player who took the opportunity to cross the ball. Tyler was running back and got to the ball whilst running and was very unlucky to

divert the ball past Alfie to give Longwell Green a lucky goal 1-2. We did not let this affect us and all the boys were back on top straight away and some good quick passing from Bartus and James saw James play a delightful ball between two players to Aran who took a couple of touches, looked up and hit an unstoppable shot into the top of the net a very good team goal with a fantastic finish 1-3. We were playing well and a good ball from Bradley W saw **James** pick the ball up from the half way line he skipped past two players then rounded the final defender before finishing with calmness past the 'keeper 1-4. Longwell came on the attack from the kickoff and had moved the ball out wide and got a good cross in only for a diving Tristen to intercept the ball and knock it out from the corner. From the corner Keanu got in the way and played the ball to Bradley W, he controlled the ball and went past one player and looked to pass to Aran but the ball got took a bobble and went straight to the Longwell player who passed well inside our box and the attacker finished well past Alfie 2-4. Keanu got the ball out wide to Aran who went on a darting run and then shot into the side-netting for the last action of very entertaining first half of football.

HALF-TIME: L/GREEN 2 FRYS 4

We started the 2nd half well and began to start passing the ball better and a good passing move between Tristen and Bartus saw a ball played down the wing to James who took on two players and shot just wide of the post. The 'keeper took another big kick into our half, James though had saw it coming and controlled the ball and went past a player, looked up and saw Bartus sprinting forward and passed to him, Bartus took the ball under his control and without slowing took a touch and hit a powerful shot past the keeper giving him no chance 2-5. A great bit of defending from Tristen prevented a Longwell attack and then he was away to the half way line where he saw James in a bit of space and found him with a nice pass. James used his skill to evade a Longwell defender and from the corner of his eye saw Keanu at the edge of the area a quick pass from James to Keanu saw Keanu clean through on goal and he made no mistake with the finish to score **2-6**. Longwell kept going though and with good encouragement from the parents on the side they got forward and only a couple of very good saves from Alfie prevented them from scoring. Alfie rolled the ball out to Tyler who then passed to Bradley who in turn pushed the ball on to **James** who with only one player to beat was in the clear. Once he was clear there was no doubt that he was going to score and that was what he did with the composure of a very good player 2-7. Some good play out wide from Aran jinking his way down the wing drew

two defenders to him. Once they were out of position he crossed the ball to **Cory** who controlled the ball and hit it past the 'keeper and even though the defender tried his best to get there before the ball crossed the line he unable to get there in time **2-8**. Longwell Green had time for one more attack but between some solid defending from Tyler and good goalkeeping from Alfie we were able to keep them out.

FULL-TIME: L/GREEN 2 FRYS 8

Man of the Match – Chosen by Gaz for a great first half defensive performance and a well taken goal – Cory

With the Longwell Green Manager agreeing to a 7v7 game for the 2^{nd} match and Finn M running late due to car problems James and Bartus agreed to stay and help out which was much appreciated.

The Game 2 line-up was:

Cory

Finlay W Ethem

Bradley G Liam

Substitutes: James, Bartus & Finlay M

Just like in the 1st game we had kick-off. The ball went wide to Kaylum who had seen Bradley make a move forward and passed the ball to him, Bradley picked the ball up went around the Longwell defender, waited for the 'keeper to come off of his line before passing the ball into the net so like the 1st game we were 1-0 up within the first minute **0-1**. From the kick-off Longwell Green moved the ball around well and we were unable to get a tackle in. The ball got to the edge of the penalty area and they got the shot away which was heading for the goal only for Ethem to make a last ditch block and send the ball out for a corner. The corner was taken short and then whipped into our box which was well defended by Finn W, however they managed to get the ball though and shot, which Cory dived to his left to make a good save. Cory rolled the ball out to Charlie who saw Bradley out wide and made a lovely ball to Bradley, and he ran down the wing, took on two players, and with us shouting for him to cross the ball he decided to take on one more player and shoot which went well wide. The 'keeper took a long kick which Liam saw and with a delicate first touch was away and clear and just pulled his shot wide of the goal. Longwell took a short goal kick and Bradley was quick on to the player and managed to get the ball. He was out wide and this time crossed it Kaylum who made no mistake with his finish to score **0-2**. Longwell Green came at us again and were doing some nice passes but Liam got a tackle in and looked to have hurt himself but bravely tried to get the ball back off of the player however he was unable to and they moved the ball out wide and played the ball in between Finn and Bartus for the attacker who gave Cory no chance to score 1-2. Just after they had scored Finn M arrived, his Dad using the skills of an F1 Mechanic had fixed the car and the young man was ready to play. Liam was struggling with his injury so a guick introduction for Finn was made as Liam tried to shake of his injury. Bradley had the ball out wide and passed into the middle where James took on one player before tapping the ball onto Kaylum whose first touch was to hit the ball past the 'keeper, a good passing

move goal **1-3**. Longwell Green came forward but Finn was in no mood to miss a tackle and put the ball out for a throw which Longwell did not have time to take as the half time whistle blew.

HALF-TIME: L/GREEN 1 FRYS 3

Ethem was into action quickly in the 2nd half making a great interception and moving the ball onto to Charlie who quickly passed the ball wide to Bradley who with his speed went down the wing and got his cross over which Kaylum was unlucky not to score from, a very good move from the boys. From the kick-off we were quick to put pressure on them and Bradley managed to tackle the player, go around another defender before finishing with great skill and an angle which even Marco Van Basten would have been proud of 1-4. Liam even though not 100% was keen to get back on and bravely was straight into the action making a tackle and surging forward only to see his shot well saved by the Longwell 'keeper. long kick from the 'keeper saw the ball bounce into our penalty area. Finn W put the ball behind for a corner. They took a good corner which came into the middle of the box and the shot was heading for the corner only for a diving Cory to flick the ball into his head and wide for another corner. From the next corner they got another shot away which Cory managed to hold. Cory rolled the ball out to James who went for a run down the wing and he crossed to Bartus whose shot just went wide. From the kick out James got the ball on the half-way line, drew a defender to him before putting **Bradley** in behind their defence and once he was in that position only one thing was going to happen which it did as the ball ended in the back of the net 1-5. We were now passing the ball around really well and a good ball from Bradley found Charlie in space about 15 yards out and he hit a thunderous shot only for it to smash into the base of the post and bounce away safely. Charlie then passed out wide to Bradley who got to the bye-line and crossed the ball into the middle where Bartus and Kaylum were charging in to finish the move. Both players got there at the same time and the ball ended in the back of the net, with **Bartus** just getting the final toe on the ball **1-6**. The ball was hit long by Longwell Green and their quick striker shot only for Cory to make the save. He rolled it out to Ethem who passed the ball to James who moved it on to Bradley who squared the ball to Charlie who crossed the ball and Kaylum was unlucky as his shot was well save by the 'keeper. The ref then ended the game.

FULL-TIME: L/GREEN 1 FRYS 6

Man of the Match – Chosen by Mark for some great defending and setting things up – Fin W

OVERALL: L/GREEN 3 FRYS 14

Afterthoughts.....

This was a good game played in a friendly atmosphere. As the boys got tired the passing game improved a lot in both games. Some of the boys are now passing well and it will come for the rest but also if they see an opportunity to go on a run this should not be taken away from them and making the right decisions when to pass and when to beat a player will come with time and as coaches is something we will work with boys on. They have come on so much in the last 18 months and playing so much better as a team that it bodes well for the future.