



FRY CLUB COLTS

U8 MATCH REPORT U8

Number 24 - **It's been the longest winter without you** - Sunday 17th April 2016

U8 MATCH REPORT U8 MATCH REPORT
ASHTON
V
FRY CLUB COLTS
U8 MATCH REPORT U8 MATCH REPORT

On a beautiful Sunday morning we traipsed down to Bower Ashton to the Clanage Cricket Ground to play Ashton. Tyler was the only player missing.

The Game 1 line-up was:

Alfie
Tristen Finlay M
Keanu James Bradley W
Bartus

Substitute: Aran

James was played through early in the match but was outnumbered so Ashton broke away all the way down the left, past Tristen as last man, but he chased them and as they broke into the area he slid in with a perfectly timed challenge to save for a corner. Finn defending won the ball and passed to Aran and he set Keanu away, for Keanu to slip it through for the run of Bartus, but his left foot shot was saved by the 'keeper. Aran set Bartus away on his left side, and again he took the shot with his left foot, although it went wide of the right post. Bartus and Aran worked their way forward but then they won it ad broke, first Finn holding them up, and then Keanu chasing right back into the corner and won it back for us. Keanu and Bartus forced the defenders to kick it away and Aran was the recipient. He played it in to Bartus with his back to goal and he back-heeled it for goal. It was saved, however it was also an audacious effort. Keanu chased into their

left corner and won it back, found Aran who took a touch forwards only for **Bartus** to take it off of him, turn and shoot low into the bottom corner **0-1**.

HALF-TIME: ASHTON 0 FRY 1

Aran won the ball back from their throw, forced his way through and shot high, however it hit the post and went out. Aran won it on the right, ran at goal and it took two players sliding in and conceding a corner to stop him. The corner was perfect but our players are still nervous about high balls and so no one attacked it. James ran down the right and pinged it over and their player conceded a corner. Aran took and it went all the way to **James**, level with the back post and on the edge of the area, and he hit it hard and low **0-2**. They had a corner on the left and James won it and advanced, playing a great ball through for Bartus and Keanu to chase, **Bartus** getting there first and rolling it low past the 'keeper **0-3**. From their corner Aran won it and ran, past two players and kept going all the way to their area, and at the last minute their 'keeper stuck his leg out and made a point blank save. Ashton attacked 2v2 and then one player slipped it between our defenders for the other to run on to. Alfie sprinted out, but he was unable to stop the goal **1-3**. We were pressurising and a ball out came to Tristen and he shot from distance and it deflected high, but unfortunately over the crossbar. The ball came out to the halfway where Bradley controlled it and then passed down the line for Bartus who had players in front of him, however rather than smash a shot, he saw **Aran** unmarked and calmly passed to him and he had the easiest of tap-ins **1-4**. Bartus then had the ball, lifted it wide for Aran and then sprinted for goal, and Aran got to the bye-line and returned the favour to the arriving **Bartus** and he made no mistake completing his hat-trick **1-5**.

FULL-TIME: ASHTON 1 FRYSS 5

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

The Game 2 line-up was:

Aran
Bradley G Charlie
Finlay W Ethem Cory
Kaylum

Substitutes: Liam

Bradley won the ball in the middle, lifted it over players to Finn who crossed back for Bradley, however his finish was just wide. Ashton were on the ball on the right and crossed high. Aran misjudged the height and it dropped over him, however the attacker it came to smashed it just too high and it careened off of the top of the bar. Kaylum won the ball and passed to Bradley, who in turn slipped Cory through and he was in; the 'keeper charged out so Cory turned away and then spun to shoot, but just the wrong side of the post. Not a lot was happening in terms of meaningful action as we would win the ball and advance, only for them to win it back and reciprocate, with no real chances being created. Two attackers found their way blocked by Liam, and then Finn charged in to help out and the danger was cleared. From a defending position Bradley played it up to Cory who turned it on for Kaylum and he chased in on the 'keeper, forcing a corner. Bradley won the ball wide on the left and shot, the ball rebounding to Kaylum on the edge of the area and he hit it first time, which turned out to have been a great rugby conversion... From our corner they broke. Liam got back and whilst unable to win the ball he did slow them down, giving time for Cory to get back and in their way, and that allowed Liam to recover again and clear the danger. Bradley won it wide and played it to Kaylum who turned and shot, only for it to rebound to Cory for him to shoot, only for defenders to get in the way and eventually they cleared it.

HALF-TIME: ASHTON 0 FRYSS 0

A throw on their left came in to **Charlie** who spotted their 'keeper well off of his line and a bit wide so he shot from distance. The 'keeper realised what was happening and sprinted back and got a hand to the bouncing ball, and looked like he had saved it, but the referee blew for a

goal **0-1**. Kaylum broke from the halfway line but his shot was deflected wide. From the corner the ball found its way to Finn on the edge of the area and he leathered a shot goalwards, but the 'keeper reacted really well to save it. They were still a real threat and only goal-line blocks from Liam, Charlie and Bradley prevented the equaliser. Kaylum won the ball and ran for goal, not stopping for anyone, but his touch near the goal let him down and the 'keeper was just able to get to it. A ball played into Charlie halfway with his back to goal saw him spin and reverse pass diagonally right for **Liam's** run, and he made sure of his shot **0-2**. Aran rolled it right to Ethem who decided to run across goal and pass, however it missed its target and fell nicely for the attacker who lifted it over Aran **1-2**. They attacked down our right and all of our players seemed to be drawn to the ball, which meant the cross found a lone Ashton player. As he was controlling it however Cory was alive to the danger and got a telling tackle, giving Aran time to set himself, however the ball ricocheted off of Aran goalwards, but Cory had done the right thing and was on the line waiting to clear it. Bradley chased a loose ball and slipped it inside for Cory, however the 'keeper made the save, it came back to Liam whose shot went so high that when it came back down again it had snow on it! Ashton were not giving up and a shot was well parried by Aran, however they shot again, over Aran and over Cory on the line **2-2**.

FULL-TIME: ASHTON 2 FRYSS 2

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

OVERALL: ASHTON 3 FRYSS 7

Afterthoughts.....

Two fantastic matches that are really beginning to show the best in our players, and I think that the larger pitch and format is suiting them better as they begin to realise that they cannot run all over the pitch with the ball, but have to hold positions and pass the ball. Match 1 was excellent in this respect as I had nothing to say to the boys at halftime, that was how well they were following our instructions. Match 2 was almost as good, but we did lose a bit of that discipline in the second half, and that was what allowed them the opportunity to get back into the game. It's a small gripe however as this was one of the best performances I have seen from our team, and it was against a nice opposition who tried to do the same. Can we keep this level of focus to the end of the season?