



FRY CLUB COLTS

U9 MATCH REPORT U9

Number 11 - **When we are near, we must make the enemy believe we are far away...** - Sunday 13th November 2016

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AEK BOCO JUNIORS
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We travelled on an overcast Autumn afternoon to AEK Boco Juniors; a team we had not played for two years. The last time we played them they beat us by a wide margin, and for this difficult trip we were without Keanu.

The Game 1 line-up was:

Alfie
Ethem Liam
Finn W Charlie Bradley W
Bartek

Substitutes: Bradley G & Cory

There was quite a big slope on the pitch and we were shooting up it in the first half. Boco started the game very well and were soon passing the ball around. We were defending very well and a well-timed tackle from Liam prevented them from getting a telling cross into the box. Liam passed the ball wide to Brad W who beat one player before getting tackled as he was about to pass. They broke very quickly down their right before getting a cross in and Finn did well to clear the ball. They were quicker to the loose ball though and hit a low shot which was heading to the bottom corner only for Alfie to get down quickly and tip the ball around the post for a corner. From the corner Ethem did well to get to the ball first and looked to clear it to Bartek who got to the ball and laid it off to Charlie who passed out wide to Finn who though did his best, was unable to get to the ball before it went out for a throw, but this was a good effort at turning defence in to attack. Boco were still moving the ball well and were attacking down the right and whipped in a good cross. Finn had done well to track back and looked to knock the ball behind for a corner but was very unfortunate to see the ball bobble into the bottom corner **1-0**. From a goal-kick Cory got the ball from Alfie, drew the attacker in before passing to Charlie who took the ball on a couple of yard before hitting a 30-yard pass cross field to Bartek; this was not just a boot up-field, it a measured pass that any player at any level would have been proud of. Bartek ran onto the ball with only the

goalie to beat and looked for the far post but dragged it wide of the post. Boco were attacking down their right again but some good team work from Liam and Brad G forced them out wide and we were unlucky to concede the corner. Boco took a good corner into our box and Brad W did well to get to the ball first and clear it; they picked it up on the edge of the area, Liam went to close him down but they shifted the ball quickly to a player on the edge of the area who unleashed a cracking shot that came off of the post and in, giving Alfie no chance **2-0**. We had a corner which Charlie took short to Brad G who took the ball closer to the penalty box, passed the ball back to Charlie who now had a good angle to shoot, which he hit, a good high hard shot which the 'keeper did well to save.

HALF-TIME: BOCO 2 FRY 0

We had the advantage of the slope in the 2nd half but like the first half we were slow to start and they took full advantage of this and ran straight through us down the middle of the pitch and before we really knew the half had started the ball was in the back of our net **3-0**. The boys then switched on and started to play some really good football, and a good pass from Cory found Brad G who went on a run through the middle of the pitch and then with options of passing to Liam or Finn, he decided to take the ball himself and continue his run down the right, but before he could eventually cross he was tackled; he battled the ball back and poked it forward, Liam had continued his run and went for the ball but the 'keeper was very brave and dived at Liam's feet and deflected the ball out for a corner. We were playing well and also battling well and the effort was really good to see from all the boys. They played a ball over us and they had three attackers with no one back but Ethem, however Cory and both Brad's had reacted really well and closed them down and got in some really good blocks but they still managed to shoot, but Alfie made a very good save. Finn got the ball in our half and cut the ball inside to Brad G who passed to Brad W, who played the ball to Bartek who got the ball under control before firing in a really sharp cross. Brad G had done well to get into the box and was unfortunate that the ball was at an awkward height and he could only get a knee to the ball which flew over the bar. They took a big goal kick which Brad G headed to Brad W, and he picked up the loose ball and found Charlie who thread the ball through to Bartek who pushed it on to Liam who did very well to cut inside and with no other option available cracked a shot off towards the Boco goal which their 'keeper did well to get down to. The ref blew the full-time whistle once the 'keeper kicked out.

FULL-TIME: BOCO 3 FRYS 0

Man of the Match – Chosen by Andy for a good 1st half defensive performance and working hard up front in the 2nd half – **Liam**

The Game 2 line-up was:

Alfie
Tristen Jamie
Tyler Aran Kaylum
Finn M

Substitute: James

As in the first game we started playing up the slope, however we were more switched on than in the first game and Aran was soon clear with a run-on goal; he had Finn in the box ready for a tap in but decided to go for a shot himself that went wide. Tristen picked the ball up on the wide right and passed inside to Aran who was proving to be a real handful for the Boco team and they were unable to get a tackle in as Aran jinked left then right and gave himself a yard of space before crossing the ball that just went over Finn's head; if he was one inch taller it could have gone in, but it drifted out for a goal-kick. Boco, as in the first game were looking to pass the ball and they had one skilful player who was using all of his tricks and beat Jamie to get a powerful shot away which Alfie saved well. The game was a good battle between two very good teams that were cancelling each other out and the chances were few and far between. Tyler was determined to get to a loose ball first and beat the Boco player to the ball just inside our half; he knocked the ball inside to James who went wide before cutting inside and shooting, the ball skimmed across the surface which the `keeper did well to get down to and make a good save. They now attacked us and they managed to get the ball out wide on the left-hand side to their star player who controlled the ball well and worked space for himself before hitting the ball under Alfie and into the empty net **1-0**. Kaylum was strong in defence and passed the ball to James who touched it on to Jamie and he passed the ball back to James who then beat his player before passing the ball on to Finn, and he then knocked it back to Aran who weaved past the last two defenders and with only the goalie to beat, had one more touch which was a bit heavy, giving the goalie the opportunity to react quickly and fall on the ball before Aran could finish the move off.

HALF-TIME: BOCO 1 FRYS 0

We were playing some good football to begin the 2nd half and a nice move involving quick crisp passes from Jamie, Tyler and Finn saw the ball go out wide to Aran, who after a good battle with the Boco defender got over a very good cross that came all the way out to the left-hand side where Kaylum was first to it and he laid the ball back to James who hit a powerful shot that clipped the bar and went over. They took a big goal kick and after a fight for the ball on the half way line the Boco player passed it through to the waiting striker who composed himself and calmly put the ball past Alfie and into the net **2-0**. We were playing good football and a clever ball from Aran gave **James** some space just inside the Boco half; he

moved in to the space and shifted the ball to the right before unleashing a rocket of a hot and if it had not hit the net would still be traveling now **2-1**. This goal gave us a lift and suddenly we were in total control! A nice move down the left started by Tristen who passed down the line to Tyler, and he cut inside to James who played the ball through to **Kaylum** who just lifted the ball over the advancing `keeper **2-2**. We were soon on the attack again and Aran was using all of his determination and skill down the right, and he drew in the Boco defenders before crossing to where **Kaylum** was waiting, and he looked to shoot into the bottom left hand corner but the shot hit his other foot sending the goalkeeper the wrong way and nestling into the bottom right corner **2-3**. Kaylum was on fire now and straight from the kick-off he tackled the player and was bearing down on goal; he shot early but it was intercepted by the defender this was not going to stop **Kaylum** though and he tackled this player before hitting a thunderbolt of a shot to give him a four-minute hat-trick **2-4**. We now had Boco rattled and they were starting to panic as we went looking for the goal that would level the match overall! Some great play by Tyler saw him get the ball to the edge of the penalty area and he passed side-ways to Aran who knocked the ball into the area and followed it up to shoot, but it went narrowly wide. They counter-attacked and their skilful player hit a cracker of a shot which Alfie did well to save and put around for a corner; a harsh spectator (his Dad) said he should have caught it! We had one more chance and a flowing move from defence to attack came to Aran who bulldozed his way to the bye-line before crossing and he found Kaylum in the box but his shot was well saved.

FULL-TIME: BOCO 2 FRYS 4

Man of the Match – Chosen by Andy for a good performance and cracking hat trick – **Kaylum**

OVERALL: BOCO 5 FRYS 4

Afterthoughts.....

This was a very good game against a good footballing team and even though we lost by the odd goal they were panicking at the end and with a bit more luck and better finishing we could have drawn and maybe even got the win. The boys in the first game struggled to begin with and got better as the game went on and defensively are looking a much stronger unit. The 2nd team are coming along as well, playing some really good football and it nice to see stuff that we are doing training coming into play in the matches. The passing and skill was very good indeed and special mention to Aran who works so hard and is one boy who has improved his passing so much in the last few weeks. So hopefully Boco are this season's Brislington and by the end of the season hopefully we will have that first win against them!