FRY CLUB COLTS U9 MATCH REPORT U9

Number 23 - The worst calamities that befall an army arise from hesitation - Sunday 2nd April 2017

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On a bright spring day, we welcomed Imperial to Somerdale for our last game in the mini competition for the season. As it was not the final it was agreed between the Imperial Manager and Andy that it would be treated as a friendly; the last time we played Imperial it was a good game that we came out on top in the end, however for this game we were missing Alfie, Ethem and Tyler.

The Game 1 line-up was:

Bradley G/Bradley W

Tristen Cory

James Aran Finley

Bartek

Substitute: Aiden

We started off very well and a great interchange of passes from James and Aran meant Aran was able to get a shot away which just went wide of the post. Imperial were also passing the ball well and had some pace down their right side, and Cory came across and made a great interception to knock the ball behind for a corner. They whipped in a dangerous looking corner which Bradley managed to get his hands to, to deflect the ball away from the goal and Tristen got to the loose ball and clear it. Cory then saw Bartek in space and played the ball behind the Imperial defence for Bartek to run onto. Bartek got to the ball first and ran into the penalty area, but the 'keeper came out well and deflected the goal bound shot behind. Imperial were attacking down the left side and had gotten to the edge of our area, so Tristen came across and managed to get a good block on the attempted cross and Bradley quickly came out and picked up the loose ball. He rolled the ball out to Tristen who waited until the Imperial player came to him before passing with great skill to Aran who flicked the ball on to James, and he then powered up our right side before cutting the ball back to Aran who was in space and got into the area before finishing the move of with a stylish finish 1-0. Finley broke up an

Imperial attack with a well-timed tackle, he then laid the ball off to James who looked up and saw Aran in space and found him a great ball. Aran got to the edge of the area before seeing Bartek in space and found him with a pinpoint cross, Bartek took one touch before firing low past the 'keeper before the 'keeper had a chance to move 2-0. Aiden made a crucial challenge just inside our half before finding Aran on the halfway line, and a great run by Aran took two players out of the game, and he laid the ball off to James whose thunderous shot just went over the bar. Imperial were moving the ball around well and played a good ball into our penalty box, and Finley did well to get to the ball first but was put under pressure quickly; we looked to clear the ball, but it deflected off of the attacker straight into the path of another Imperial player who had run onto the ball and smashed the ball past the diving Bradley **2-1**.

HALF-TIME: FRYS 2 IMPERIAL 1

Imperial were soon on the attack looking for the equaliser and had got to the edge of the area where they played a quick exchange of passes and from a narrow angle got a shot away which Bradley W did well to get down to and knock behind for a corner. Cory got to the corner first and cleared down the line where he found James who surged forward before finding Aran who lofted the ball over the 'keeper and into the back of the net **3-1**. It was a battle in midfield, and we were closing them down well and all they could do was clear the ball up-field. Finley waited for the ball to cross the line for a goal-kick, but the ball stopped on the line; he looked to pass the ball back to Bradley in goal however an Imperial player had moved swiftly through and got to the ball just before Bradley to poke it home 3-2. Aiden was making some great blocks and tackles and from one of these there was suddenly some space for him to run into. He got to the edge of area before shooting which was well saved by the 'keeper. moving the ball well down their left side and got in a good looking cross; Finn got to it first and played the ball away, however Tristen was coming back like a steam train and could not stop in time and accidently knocked the ball in 3-3. Finley made a well-timed tackle which prevented an Imperial attacker from getting a shot away, he then calmly set us on the attack by finding Aran who, with deft little pass to Aiden saw him thread the ball to Bartek who shot from distance, which the 'keeper happily watched go wide. We were playing some good football and a great pass from Cory found Aran in space on the left side; he jinked past two players before crossing to Bartek who gave himself a yard of space before shooting, the 'keeper doing well to get down low and tip the ball behind for a corner. **James** whipped in a delightful corner right into the danger area which caused all sorts of confusion in the Imperial defence and the defender was unlucky when, trying to clear the ball could only knock it into the roof of the net **4-3**. There was not enough time for Imperial to attack again before the ref blew the final whistle.

FULL-TIME: FRYS 4 IMPERIAL 3

Man of the Match – Chosen by Andy for a performance of great energy and a wonderful corner that we got the winner from – **James**

The Game 2 line-up was:

Cory

Keanu Finlay

Liam Charlie Bradley W

Kaylum

Substitute: Bradley G

Imperial started well and a great pass from the middle They then found their wide man on the right side. jinked their way to near the corner flag before crossing the ball into the centre of the penalty box. Kaylum was brave though and got to the ball first and cleared to Charlie who looked up and hit a ball down our left side to where Bradley W was waiting. He touched the ball past a player and was in the clear; he waited to perfection for the defender to come across to him before cutting the ball back to Liam who hit a great first time shot which was well saved by the 'keeper. They played the ball out and were looking to attack but Kaylum got in the way of the ball before passing to Bradley G who ran at the Imperial defence but with both Liam and Charlie in the box, he shot from a narrow angle that went wide. For a change, Imperial went long, and the ball bounced into our half. Finlay managed to tussle the ball off of the Imperial Stormtrooper and laid the ball off to Liam who played the ball into the gap to where Bradley W had gotten into space. Bradley W threaded the ball to Bradley G who skipped past one player before shooting past the 'keeper, only for a defender to come across and make a great goal line clearance. From our corner, they broke quickly; Keanu though stood strong and slowed them down allowing our midfield to get back and a combination of Keanu and Liam forced the ball out for a throw in. They took a quick throw and hit a ball high that landed just in front of Cory, who with some unconventional but effective 'keeping managed to get the ball over bar for a corner. We were soon attacking again and a great ball from Bradley G found Charlie who darted forward before hitting a bullet of a shot which went narrowly wide.

HALF-TIME: FRYS 0 IMPERIAL 0

They attacked first and the got the ball out wide to their tricky winger, but Keanu had read the danger well and went through him like a tank, getting the ball and clearing the danger to where Liam picked up the ball and sprinted as fast as he could to the edge of area before passing to Kaylum who shot first time, the

'keeper doing well to hold on to the ball. Some lovely work by Bradley W on the left saw him glide past one defender as if he was not there. He then chipped a cracker of a ball to Liam who tried a sneaky chip shot that the 'keeper just managed to get hold of. They were quickly up field and had manged to get to the edge of the area before hitting a powerful shot which Cory did well to punch away and then Keanu cleared to Liam who played a lovely ball up the right side for Kaylum to reach before the Imperial defender, guide it past him and run onto before a cross come shot crashed into the side netting. A lovely pass down the right wing by Finn found Liam in space. He worked hard to beat a man and pass inside to Bradlev G who powered up to the edge of the area, ghosting past one player before shooting; the ball deflecting off an Imperial defender to go behind for a corner. Charlie trotted over to take the corner, he floated over a great corner which the 'keeper tried to get hold of, but as he was stretching all he could do was push it into the net 1-0. Imperial managed to get the ball just into our half when they shot from distance; the ball bounced high in our penalty area, but Cory took a step back and caught the ball just before it went over his head and into the net. Cory passed out to Liam who moved forward a bit, waited for the attackers to come to him and then passed a ball long to Bradley W, who had to sprint but got to the ball first. He took a touch, cut inside and then crossed to where Bradley G had got into the area. The ball came at Bradley at speed and he miss-hit his shot, but it confused the 'keeper who went the wrong way, however an unlucky bounce took the ball the wrong side of the post. They had one more chance to grab an equaliser, but Finlay came across, made a great tackle, and cleared the danger.

FULL-TIME: FRYS 1 IMPERIAL 0

Man of the Match – Chosen by Andy for working very hard and some great passing – Bradley W

OVERALL: FRYS 5 IMPERIAL 3

Afterthoughts.....

What a great way to end the mini competition, winning both games by the odd goal against a good side with both teams playing some great football. At the end of the competitions, we have done very well finishing 2nd in one and 3rd in the other, which all the boys should be very proud of. In this game, we could not ask any more of the boys and Andy had great difficulty in choosing the Man of the Match, as it could have been any of the boys in both games as they all worked so hard and tried their best, and as coaches that is all we can ask of them no matter the result, as long as they are enjoying their football and improving as we 90.