



FRY CLUB COLTS

U9 MATCH REPORT U9

Number 26 - **Begin by seizing something which your opponent holds dear** - Sunday 30th April 2017

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HANHAM ATHLETIC
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On a windy Spring Day, we travelled the short distance to play Hanham. We had played them a couple of months ago when we had our first 0-0 draw over both games so we knew we were in for a hard game. For our last away game of the season, we were without Finlay, Ethem, Tyler and Tristen.

The Game 1 line-up was:

Alfie
 Finley Cory
 James Aiden Bradley W
 Bartek

Substitute: Aran

Hanham were quickly out of the blocks and were into our area within 30 seconds of the game starting then hit a shot that was hit with venom and accuracy towards goal that somehow Alfie managed to get a hand to with Cory reacting first and clearing the danger. Hanham had us pinned back for the first five minutes of the game but all the boys were putting a in shift in defence with some great blocks and one from Aiden was top drawer with tackles coming in at the right time, Finn making a couple of last ditch tackles and the couple times they did get through the defence Alfie produced some saves that any 'keeper of any age or any standard would have been proud of. They had a corner that they fired into the box with James getting a vital touch and finding Aran just outside of the area, Aran then was away using his pace and skill to get past a Hanham defender and he was in the clear, he got to the edge of the area before shooting with the ball coming off of the post and away to the edge of the area; Bartek had done well to get to the ball first and shot first time and was unlucky to see the ball just go wide. Hanham were soon on the attack again down our

right and played a good ball into the middle which they got to first and drilled a shot that came off of the post back to the same player who hit the shot high, but Alfie stretched to reach it and tipped it over the bar. Alfie played the ball to Cory who passed up the middle to James who turned and flicked it on to **Aran** who cut inside one player before looking up and putting the ball past the 'keeper to give us the lead against the run of play **0-1**. Hanham were back playing some good football again and only a last-ditch tackle from Finn prevented them getting a shot away. Bradley W got the ball on the left and with some wonderful skill took two players out of the game; he then played the ball to Bartek who set himself up before shooting with the 'keeper getting down well to make a great save.

HALF-TIME: HANHAM 0 FRY 1

We were first to attack in the 2nd half and a sweeping move involving Bradley, James and Bartek saw Bradley cross into the middle where Aran got to the ball first, his shot drifting just wide. The game was end-to-end and another great save from Alfie prevented them equalising and at the other end a great effort from Bradley went narrowly wide. They played the ball down their left and were looking to cut inside but Aiden had tracked across and got an important interception before finding James who went on a trademark run, starting in the middle and ending up near the corner flag on the right before he came inside and crossed the most delightful ball into the middle that landed perfectly on Bartek's right foot but his shot was well saved by the diving Hanham 'keeper. Hanham then had a turn to attack after a battle in midfield which they just edged, the ball squirmed out wide on the right and they played a delightful ball across the area where the striker had taken up a good position and this time, he shot like an arrow into the bottom corner of the net giving Alfie no chance **1-1**. From the kick-off Bartek passed the ball back to James who passed out wide to where **Aran** had made a run and he got the ball in his stride and within a couple of steps was in the penalty area where he unleashed a shot that the 'keeper had no time to react to and hit the back of the net with great power **1-2**. Hanham were not finished though and came at us again, this time Finn and Aiden combined really well to block out the original attack, Aiden's clearance though was picked

up by a Hanham defender first who launched a high ball into the area, the ball bounced a couple of times before an attacker got to it and guided towards goal; the ball deflected and wrong footed Alfie who still managed to get a foot to the ball and Cory swept in and cleared the danger then the ref then blew his whistle to end a very entertaining game.

FULL-TIME: HANHAM 1 FRYS 2

Man of the Match – Chosen by Andy for some saves any 'keeper would be proud of – **Alfie**

The Game 2 line-up was:

Cory
James Keanu
Liam Bradley G Charlie
Kaylum

We started the first half with the wind behind us and a good ball from Charlie gave Kaylum space to run into with the ball and he laid the ball back to Liam who went past one player before shooting just wide. Hanham played out well from defence and attacked down the left with the tricky winger skipping past Keanu before shooting towards goal, but Cory kept an eye on the ball and made a good save and Keanu reacting well to get to it and play the ball out for a throw. James got to the throw before the Hanham attacker and he gave himself a yard of space before seeing that Liam had made a good run forward and passing it into the Hanham half; **Liam** got to the ball and was clear on goal and struck the ball low and hard, it bounced off the post and into the back of the net **0-1**. As in the first game Hanham tried to pass the ball even though the conditions were difficult on a hard pitch with the wind picking up and they did get a move going of very high quality involving three of their players before shooting low, Cory doing well to get down and tip the ball behind for a corner. They swung the corner in, it came to one of their players at the near post and we gave him too much time to control the ball and turn before firing an unstoppable shot into the net **1-1**. A great interception from Kaylum turned defence into attack as in a flash he laid the ball to Bradley G who got to the halfway line before passing back to Charlie who hit a first-time pass, looking one way but passing to Liam the other; a skill a lot of professional players are unable to do! Liam struck a cracker of a shot that just went over the bar. We were now playing some majestic football and the boys were passing the ball so well and a great ball from James fed Bradley who got to the by-line before shooting with the ball coming off of the post and behind for a corner.

HALF-TIME: HANHAM 1 FRYS 1

We managed to earn a throw on the left which James took and he found Charlie who played it into the middle where Bradley was waiting and Bradley skipped past two Hanham defenders and was one on

one with the goalkeeper; the 'keeper decided to stay on his line so from no more than six yards out **Bradley** passed the ball into the bottom corner of the net to score **1-2**. Hanham attacked looking for an equaliser and got a shot away from distance, but Keanu was brave and got in the way of the shot before Cory quickly came out of goal and dived on the ball. Cory then rolled the ball out to James who passed down the line to Kaylum who laid it off to Bradley who, after gliding by one player passed inside to Charlie who saw that Liam had drifted to the far post and lifted a ball over to **Liam** who controlled the ball before smashing into the roof of the net for an amazing goal **1-3**. James made a crucial tackle and then made a pass to Charlie of pure class; Charlie also had his passing boots on and threaded the ball between two Hanham defenders to find Bradley who shot first time that the 'keeper did very well to tip around the post. Liam took a great out-swinging corner that Keanu got to, his shot going inches wide. They went long with a goal-kick but Charlie kept his eye on the ball and when the Hanham players came at him he saw Bradley a couple yards away and played the ball to him; Bradley was then in the clear and he got to the corner of the box, the 'keeper this time came out to him but **Bradley** slid the ball under the diving 'keeper and it rolled into the empty net **1-4**. We had one more chance to increase our lead as another wonderful pass from Charlie fed Kaylum away down the left. Kaylum looked to shoot from distance, and it was heading for the top right corner of the net but somehow the 'keeper managed to save it and Hanham cleared it away from the goal mouth.

FULL-TIME: HANHAM 1 FRYS 4

Man of the Match – Chosen by Andy for some of the best passing all season – **Charlie**

OVERALL: HANHAM 2 FRYS 6

Afterthoughts.....
This was a great performance against a good side who passed the ball very well. In Game 1 we did well to keep them out in the first half with Alfie making saves that were of the highest order and he was assisted by all the boys who defended with great effort and skill. We came more into the game in the 2nd half and did well to win the game. We were more dominant in Game 2 and we passed the ball really well and the 3rd goal was up there as one of the best goals we have scored all season with six of the seven boys turning defence into attack and a goal in a blink of an eye!