

Number 27 - If his forces are united, separate them - Friday 5th May 2017

U9 MATCH REPORT U9 MATCH REPORT FRY CLUB COLTS V ASHTON U9 MATCH REPORT U9 MATCH REPORT

On a windy Friday evening we welcomed Ashton back to Somerdale. We had played them earlier in the season when they beat us by the odd goal. For our first ever evening game we were without Liam, Aiden and Finlay and it was our penultimate home game of the season.

The Game 1 line-up was:

Alfie

Keanu Ethem

Bartek Charlie Cory

Kaylum

Substitute: Bradley G

Ashton started on the front foot and were soon attacking down our right and a lovely interchange of passes meant their attacking right player ran into the box and fired in a low shot that Alfie did well to get down to and make a great save. Alfie rolled the ball out to Cory who looked to pass up the line to Charlie but they nipped in and got to the ball first and fired the ball into the penalty area where Ethem did well to get to the ball first and tried to dribble the ball away from danger; it looked like he had managed this but as he was about to clear it they nicked the ball off of him and ran into the box and fired a low shot across Alfie and into the back of the net 0-1. Bradley G passed the ball out wide to the right to Kaylum who tricked his way past the defender and delivered a devilish cross to where Bartek had got into a great space, and he unleashed a shot that bounced on the top of the bar and over the net. Ashton with the strong wind behind them and a pitch that was very dry so the ball was bouncing all over the place were playing a good mixture of short quick passes and some long balls that were causing us problems and from one of these long balls Keanu did

really well to get to the ball before the quick attacker; he looked to pass back to Alfie but the pass was a little short and one of their players nipped in before Alfie and went round and looked to roll the ball into the net however Cory had read the danger and a like a bullet got to the ball just in time to knock it behind for a corner. Charlie was the quickest to react to the corner and played a simply delightful ball to Bradley G who hit a crackerjack of a pass up the right to Bartek who was in a bit of space. Bartek got his skates on and was away and he got to the edge of the area before the defender got back to him. Bartek though waited for Kaylum to catch up before passing the ball into Kaylum's path who hit a first time shot that whizzed just the wrong side of the post for all the Fry's fans.

HALF-TIME: FRYS 0 ASHTON 1

We had the wind behind us for the 2nd half and straight way we used it to our advantage with Bradley floating a ball out to the left where Charlie was, and he skipped past a player before crossing the ball; Bartek got a toe to the ball with the 'keeper doing well to get down low before tipping the ball around the post for a corner. Charlie trotted over to take the corner and whipped in a delightful cross that the wind got hold of and went over the stranded 'keeper's head into the back of the net **1-1**. Ashton were still playing some good football and passing the ball really well and a great ball into our area saw their striker hit a first time shot that Alfie did well to save but he could only parry the ball back into the area and just as it looked like they were going to tap the ball into the net to retake the lead Ethem got in a vital tackle and played the ball out to Cory who completed the clearance down the line to where Bartek got to it first and played a great crossfield ball where Bradley was on to it and away he ran down the right before crossing to the edge of the area where Kaylum controlled the ball and hit a shot destined for the bottom corner only for the ball to deflect off of a defender and go behind for a corner; end to end stuff! Charlie fired in another great corner which Keanu was waiting for and he hit a bullet of a shot that fired off the crossbar and over; another inch lower and it would have been a contender for goal of the season. They tried to go long but with the wind in their faces the ball did not go very far, and Bradley was first to react and after moving forward a couple of paces he shot just wide. Ashton were looking for a winner and worked the ball well into our half, Charlie had done well to track back and make a vital tackle and the loose ball was picked up by Cory who passed first time to Kaylum who sprinted full pelt into the Ashton half and he hit a cross/shot that bounced in the penalty area and just over the bar.

FULL-TIME: FRYS 1 ASHTON 1

Man of the Match – Chosen by Andy for great effort and some good skills – Kaylum

The Game 2 line-up was:

Alfie

Tristen Tyler

James Finley Bradley W

Daniel

Substitute: Aran

With the wind picking up and getting very blustery Ashton had the wind behind them in the first half and they were first on the attack, hitting a great shot that Alfie did well to tip over the bar. From the corner Tristen did well to get to the ball first before guiding the ball to Tyler who used all his energy and pace to get to the halfway line in a blink of an eye before threading a ball out to the left where Bradley W got to the ball before cutting inside the defender and hitting a skimmer of shot the bounced just wide of the goal. Ashton were soon on the attack again but the rock that is Finley was not going to let them pass him and he made a well-timed tackle before calmly passing the ball on to James, and with the Ashton defence out of position James passed the ball on with accuracy to the running Aran and once he was in the clear there was only going to be one outcome; Aran waited for the 'keeper to make his move before calmly slotting the ball under the 'keeper into the empty net 1-0. We were playing some great football and a majestic pass from Bradley W found Daniel on the edge of the area; he spun past the defender before shooting, the 'keeper making a good save and he then played the ball down their left and were looking to break only for Tyler to nip across and make a vital interception before knocking the ball out for a throw. We put pressure on them from the throw and from just inside the halfway line all they could do was hit the ball forward, the wind got hold of the ball and it got all the way to the penalty area before bouncing high and then dipping at the last possible second under the bar into the net 1-1. We had one more chance to edge in front before the break, James breaking quickly from midfield before playing Aran in who was slightly off balance when he shot with the ball just going past the post and away for a goal-kick.

HALF-TIME: FRYS 1 ASHTON 1

We had the wind behind us in the 2nd half and were soon on top with Bradley W using all his tricks to get into the box and he cut the ball back to Daniel who hit a shot with great power but straight at the 'keeper; a yard either side of the 'keeper and it would have gone in. They got to the halfway line before Tristen made a fantastic tackle and found Tyler on our left and from just inside the Ashton half he looked up and saw Daniel was on his own so Tyler looked to find him with a ball over the top, however the ball forward was taken by the wind and it got all the way to the penalty area before bouncing high and then dipping at the last possible second under the bar into the net for a bit of déjà vu 2-1. The goal seemed to give us a boost of confidence and deflate them and we were totally on top with James in the middle of the pitch controlling the game and it was not long before he found the inch perfect pass to Aran who used his skill and strength to beat the one defender who had stayed with him before finishing with skill and power into corner of the net 3-1. Ashton tried to get back into the game and played some quick short passes that had us chasing shadows before they hit a shot that bounced just in front of Alfie but he kept an eye on the ball and made a comfortable save before moving the ball quickly to Finley who in a blink on an eye found Bradley W on the left and Bradley did a step over before gliding past the defender into the open space, he drew the defender towards him before passing the ball in between two defenders and Aran was the first to react and before the Ashton 'keeper knew what was happening **Aran** had hit the ball past him into the net **4-1**. We had one more attack and another great ball from James saw Tyler with an opportunity for his second goal, but his hit shot was well saved by the Ashton 'keeper to keep the score at 4-1.

FULL-TIME: FRYS 4 ASHTON 1

Man of the Match – Chosen by Andy for a great performance on his return to the team – Tyler

OVERALL: FRYS 5 ASHTON 2

Afterthoughts.....

The performance in the first game was not the best we have played this season and some of the boys struggled to adapt to the situation of playing on a Friday and were unable to concentrate on the game; hopefully this is something they will get used as we go through the ages as there will be more evening games. That said they kept going and thanks to a great defensive performance held on for the draw. We were more in control in the 2nd game and in very hard conditions did well to win and it was good see Tyler playing well.