



FRY CLUB COLTS

U10 MATCH REPORT U10

Number 6 - 'Once more unto the breach, dear friends, once more' - Sunday 1st October 2017

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BRISTOL ROVERS SUPPORTERS
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We were away again for our 3rd and last game in the group stage of the mini cup competition. After wins against Ashton and Saltford we knew that a win or draw would see us through to the final next week. Our opponents were Bristol Rovers Supporters Club, a team we have played a few times before, always having good close games. The last time we played we won, with Rovers edging the time before. For this game we were without Tristen.

The Game 1 line-up was:

Alfie
Finley Finlay
James Tyler Brad W
Aran

The game started at a frantic pace as Rovers tried to get the ball forward, but Finlay was awake to the situation and came across to knock the ball out for a Rovers throw. They threw down the line, but Finlay got in a great tackle and managed to get the ball down the line to Bradley, and where Rovers had committed a few players, he had space to run into. He got to the edge of their area when he looked up and saw Tyler had gotten forward with him and passed into the middle; Tyler spun past a defender before laying the ball off to **James** who was flying in and he took it in his stride to shoot low across the grass past the diving 'keeper into the bottom corner of the net to give Frys the perfect start **0-1**. From the kick-off Rovers were soon at the edge of our area and got away a good hard low shot which Alfie did well to get down to, to make the important save. We were soon on the attack again and a nice ball between two players from James found Tyler just inside the penalty box; Tyler took a touch before firing towards goal, the 'keeper diving to make a great save tipping the ball past the post. James

whipped in the corner, and it looked like he had put too much on it, but Bradley managed to stretch to reach it at the back post, and he got it under control and shot, the 'keeper again making a good save at his near post. The 'keeper kicked the ball long and we let it bounce into our half, the Rovers wide player on the right getting to the ball first; he tried to trick his way past Finley who was having none of it and he got his foot to the ball and knocked it behind for a corner. They took it short and then fired it across the box, Aran was the first to it though and calmly played it out to James at the edge of the area who ran to the half-way line before passing down the left to Bradley who from the corner of the box let fly, the ball soaring past the 'keeper but just the wrong side of the post, a great strike. The match became a battle in midfield with neither side controlling the game for five or so minutes, and just before the whistle a Rovers player tried his luck from distance, but Alfie watched it all the way to make an easy save; it would have needed to be something special to beat Alfie from that distance.

HALF-TIME: ROVERS 0 FRY 1

Finlay picked up a loose ball early in the second half and powered down the right wing leaving two Rovers defenders in his wake, he then played a delightful ball into the Rovers box where Aran got it and hit a first-time volley; the ball went like a bullet and hit the top of the crossbar and went over the bar leaving it shaking. They passed the ball well and got behind our midfield and for the entire world looked like they would score with the final pass heading towards the striker, but Finley came across and got to the ball first and cleared the danger. A good ball from Bradley found Aran in space who sprinted into the Rovers half, went around one defender before shooting narrowly wide of the post. The 'keeper went long but Aran kept his eye on the ball and got his head to the ball which went back over the Rovers' defenders and **James** was first to react who before the 'keeper could set himself powered a low pile driver past him and into the bottom corner of the net again **0-2**. A great run from Aran had the Rovers defence all over the place, he then passed out wide to James who from the same position as his second goal shot; it beat the 'keeper again this time though the ball hit the post and the 'keeper did well to pick the rebound up; so close to James' hat-trick. Rovers

were plugging away and a neat little pass inside Finley gave them an opportunity to shoot a low shot that looked to be heading for the back of the net only for Alfie to get down and make another great save. Alfie looked to find James in space, but the ball did not quite have the legs and was intercepted by the Rovers midfield who played a quick ball up-to one of their players who had stayed forward; he was in the area turned quickly and shot, giving Alfie no chance **1-2**. Rovers had one more chance to see if they could get the goal that would leave it level after the first game; a move up the left side got them to the by-line and they hit a low cross in to where two attackers were waiting but Finley got to the ball first and cleared the danger as the final whistle blew.

FULL-TIME: ROVERS 1 FRY'S 2

The Game 2 line-up was:

	Ethem	
	Keanu	Cory
Bartek	Liam	Charlie
	Kaylum	

Substitute: Bradley G

Rovers were soon on the attack down their right side and Cory did well to make a tackle and looked to make his clearance; the Rovers' player did well though to block the clearance with the ball deflecting into the path of a striker who was in the area; he was clear on goal and shot past the diving Ethem, not the start we were looking for and Rovers were now level in the overall match **1-0**. We were shaken by the goal and Rovers were soon attacking again, and a quick succession of passes saw them get to the edge of the box before the tall striker (twin of the goalkeeper in the first game) shot high towards goal, and Ethem did well to reach the ball and put it over the bar for a corner. Keanu got to the corner first and cleared out of the area for Charlie who picked up the ball and played the most delightful pass to Bartek, the passing splitting the two Rovers defenders! Bartek got to the ball and shot across the 'keeper, only going wide by inches, a great move from back to front. Rovers were attacking again down the right, but Cory got to the ball and knocked it up to Bartek who looked to get Charlie away down the left, the defender just getting to it and knocked it out for a throw. Charlie saw Bradley make a move and played a quick throw, the combination of Bradley's movement and a great throw from Charlie saw Bradley in space and into the area with a one on one with the 'keeper. The 'keeper decided to stay on his line, so **Bradley** just passed the ball past him and into the net **1-1**. Kaylum did some great work down the right side going past a defender before crossing into the box. Bartek got to the ball first and under pressure got a shot away, the 'keeper doing well to knock behind for a corner. Bradley took the corner hard and low, and **Keanu** worked himself to a position at the near post, waited for the ball to go

across him, before firing the ball hard and low off the near post and into the back of the net **1-2**. We ended the half strong and a good ball from Cory found Liam in the middle of the pitch. Liam stormed forward before shooting from the edge of the area; the shot beat the 'keeper but hit the bottom of the post and went out for a goal-kick.

HALF-TIME: ROVERS 1 FRY'S 2

We started the 2nd half how we ended the first half, a good tackle from **Bradley** won the ball and he played it out left for **Charlie** who tricked his way past a player before hitting a thunderbolt from 20 yards that had the 'keeper grasping at fresh air and the ball soared past him into the roof of the net **1-3**. Rovers tried to attack but Cory and Keanu were not letting them pass, and a good interception from Cory meant he had time to look up and measure his pass to Kaylum who played the ball wide to Charlie and he passed first time to **Bradley** who spun on a sixpence before hitting a skimmer across the grass, off of the post and into the net **1-4**. We were in control and were closing them down, putting them under pressure and when we had the ball were passing it well. A good forward throw from Liam found Kaylum who crossed the ball into the area where we had three players waiting, and the ball came to **Bradley** who had the easy job of poking the ball home **1-5**. Rovers tried to get a goal back, but Keanu first got an important block in and then Ethem was brave to dive at the Rovers' striker's feet to prevent him from shooting. Ethem then found Liam who played the ball over the Rovers defence and **Bradley** had made a run and was clear; the 'keeper came out to him, but he just slid the ball past the 'keeper and into the net **1-6**. Some delightful play from Bartek saw him beat two players before he went to cross the ball; however, one of the defenders got back to knock the ball behind for a corner. Charlie took the corner, a defender blocked the ball, it came back to Charlie who whipped a lovely ball towards **Liam** who flicked the ball flying towards goal and in the back of the net a great cross with an amazing finish **1-7**. As Rovers began to give up it was all one-way traffic and a nice ball from Cory found Bartek, who took a touch before passing to Liam, and the Rovers defender was no match for **Liam** who surged into the area and gave the 'keeper no chance, hitting a powerful shot across him into the net **1-8**.

FULL-TIME: ROVERS 1 FRY'S 8

OVERALL: ROVERS 2 FRY'S 10

Afterthoughts.....

What a great performance from all the boys which meant that we won all our three group games to mean we reached the HML final next week, which we will be playing at Home so it will be good to have a final at our home at Manor Road. In Game 1 the Bristol Rovers goalkeeper kept them in it with some great saves and on another day, we would have won by 4 or 5 goals. The keeper in the 2nd game was not so strong and after a sticky start the goals came flooding in. Well done to all 16 boys during this competition, they have played some truly wonderful football and each one of them should be proud. If they play the same way in the final, we have a strong chance of winning, and no matter what happens on the day they have all been awesome.