



FRY CLUB COLTS

U10 MATCH REPORT U10

Number 8 - 'He which hath no stomach to this fight, Let him depart; his passport shall be made.' -
Sunday 15th October 2017

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After last week's success in the HML final we were back to friendlies with a team we had played on route to the cup final victory; this time we travelled to Ashton's ground. We have played them twice at their ground, losing both times in close games; could we change that this time? For this tough fixture we welcomed Oliwier for his first game for us, but we were missing Alfie, Tristen and Tyler.

The Game 1 line-up was:

Cory/Bradley G
Finlay Finlay
James Keanu Charlie
Liam

Substitute: Aran

The game started with neither side able to take control and a battle in midfield saw us struggling to get our normal passing game going, and from a misplaced pass Ashton picked up the loose ball and got to the edge of the area before shooting; Cory doing well to make the save at his near post. After another bit of scrappy play, a good tackle from Finlay stopped them on the wide right; he played the ball up to Liam who did well to turn the player marking him and give himself a yard of space before cutting the ball back to Charlie who shot from distance, the ball just going wide. Ashton played a couple of nice passes between us, and Keanu got a foot to the ball but could only deflect the ball into our area where the Ashton striker reacted first and just got to the ball before Cory; he went around Cory and rolled the ball into the net **1-0**. The goal seemed to wake us up and some quick passing from James and Aran gave James the opportunity to shoot from the distance with the ball smashing into the top of the

crossbar and over. The Ashton 'keeper tried to play out wide, but Charlie got to it first and played a great ball into Aran's path who ran into the area; the 'keeper came and dived bravely at Aran's feet, but the ball squirmed under the 'keeper; **Aran** managed to keep his feet and went past the 'keeper to bundle the ball into the back of the net **1-1**. The game was still not flowing but we were breaking their play up well with some important tackles from both Finn's and Keanu. A quick break from Finlay got him to the halfway line before he laid the ball off to Aran who threaded a ball out to James who ran on a couple of yards before shooting, the 'keeper doing well to make the save but there was too much power on it for him to hold it and **Liam** was quickest to it and drove the ball into the net **1-2**. Ashton tried to get an equaliser but just as the striker who scored was looking for his second Finley came across, got the ball off him and cleared it out of danger just as the ref blew the whistle for the end of the first half.

HALF-TIME: ASHTON 1 FRY 2

Ashton were quickly out of the blocks in the second half and were in our box within seconds, shooting low, Bradley doing well to save with his feet and Keanu clearing the danger. A good ball from Liam found Aran who managed to get half a yard away from the lad whose job was to stay as close to Aran as possible! Aran got his shot away, but it was well saved by the 'keeper who cleared long, the ball making its way to our penalty box where we were unable to get the ball away with it bouncing around the penalty box like a pinball before it dropped to one of their players three to four yards out to blast the ball into our net **2-2**. The match then became very similar to the first half with neither side able to control. The effort was there from all and a crunching tackle from Keanu was a standout moment as there was no way the attacker was going to pass! We did get a lovely move going with Charlie hitting a glorious cross field pass that found James on the right; he controlled the ball with great skill and cut back onto his right before laying the ball on to Aran who glided past the defender before shooting, the ball blazing over the bar. We closed them down well and Aran got to the edge of the box before crossing; Liam had done well to just reach the ball, but his shot went out for a throw in. We were struggling to

get the ball out of our half, and it ended up on their left side. The Ashton player went for run, we tried but failed to get a tackle in as he jinked his way one way and then another past four of our players before smashing the ball home from six yards out into the roof of the net **3-2**. We looked to respond straight away with a good ball from Finlay finding Liam, who flicked the ball past the Ashton defender to Aran and he got to it just inside the Ashton half before passing between two defenders for Charlie to run onto. Charlie took a touch before hitting a cross which became a shot going past the outstretched hands of the 'keeper but just going over the bar. Another crunching tackle from Finley stopped them from attacking again; he also managed to find Aran who did well to beat a player and pass to James who shot from distance that the 'keeper held. We were unable to create any other chance before the game finished.

FULL-TIME: ASHTON 3 FRY'S 2

The Game 2 line-up was:

Ethem
 Kaylum Cory
 Oliwier Bradley G Bradley W
 Bartek

We had the slope in our favour in the first half and it was not long that we were making the most of it with Bradley W finding Bradley G with a great little pass; Bradley G cleverly went past the defender and was suddenly in the clear with just the 'keeper to beat, but he did not strike the ball cleanly and the 'keeper did well to make a good save; the ball came back to Bradley G though who calmly passed it to **Bartek** who had an open goal and he was not going to miss from a couple of yards out **0-1**. A good tackle from Cory had us turning defence into attack like a flash and a great ball down the line had Bradley W away, he then went one way then the other causing the Ashton defence all sorts of trouble before passing the ball to Bradley G who looked up and shot from 20 yards out, the ball flying past the wrong side of the post for all Fry's fans. From the kick out Bartek did well to win the ball and he laid the ball off to **Oliwier** who went past one player, then another, then another before calmly shooting past the 'keeper to score on his debut **0-2**. Ashton were playing some good football however and reacted quickly and a through ball saw their forward player out in the clear and baring down on goal; Ethem decided to stay on his line and the attacker got to a couple of yards out before finishing in the bottom corner of the net **1-2**. It was then a battle and hard going with not a lot happening until half time when a shot from distance was well saved by Ethem.

HALF-TIME: ASHTON 1 FRY'S 2

Ashton were quickly out of the blocks in the second half and were in our box within seconds, shooting low and Ethem doing well to save with his feet and

then Kaylum clearing the danger. A good ball from Kaylum found Oliwier who managed to get half a yard away and create an opening for himself; Oliwier got his shot away but it was well saved by the 'keeper who cleared long the ball making its way to our half of the pitch and we were unable to get the ball away with it bouncing around the penalty box like a pinball before it dropped to one of their players to shoot three to four yards out that looked like it was going in only for Cory to get a vital touch and put it behind for a corner. The match then became very similar to the first match with neither side able to control the game. The effort was there again, and one of the highlights was some wonderful skill from Bradley W beating two opponents before finding Bartek with a great pass; Bartek's shot just going wide. We did get a lovely move going with Bradley G hitting a glorious pass which found Oliwier on the right, he controlled the ball with great skill and cut back on to his right before laying the ball off to Kaylum, who once he sorted his feet out went past the defender before shooting, the ball whizzing over the bar. We closed them down well and Bartek got to the edge of the box before crossing; Oliwier had done well to just reach the ball, but his shot was well saved by the 'keeper. Ashton were struggling to get the ball out of their half when it ended up on the left side; Bradley W went for a run and they tried but failed to get a tackle in as he jinked his way one way and then another past two players before smashing the ball which looked like it was going, in only to come back off of the post. We looked to get the goal which would give us the win overall, and a good ball from Cory found Kaylum who flicked the ball past the Ashton defender to Bradley G who got to it just inside the Ashton half before passing between two defenders for Oliwier to run onto; Oliwier took a touch before hitting a cross that became a shot going past the 'keeper but drifting and just went wide of the far post. A great tackle from Bartek stopped them from attacking again and he also managed to find Bradley G who did well to beat a player and pass to Bradley W who shot from distance that the keeper held. Neither side could create the chance that would give them the win and when the whistle blew for the final whistle the game finished as a draw.

FULL-TIME: ASHTON 1 FRY'S 2

OVERALL: ASHTON 4 FRY'S 4

Afterthoughts.....

So we could not get the win but we managed a draw against a very physical side. The boys are going to have to get used to teams that will pull, tug, trip them etc. In Game 1 Aran made a new friend as the boy marking him spent more time holding Aran than anything else! What the boys will learn is if they play their normal game, they will beat sides like this. After the final last week and missing a few players, it was a struggle, but both sides gave 100% effort and with a bit better finishing they would have won, and they were all friendly towards Oliwier who had a great debut for the club.