



FRY CLUB COLTS

U10 MATCH REPORT U10

Number 12 - **'Cowards die many times before their deaths; the valiant never taste death but once.'**
- Sunday 19th November 2017

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We travelled the short distance to play Brislington Colts for the first time. After a lot of rain on the Saturday the pitch was just about playable, and with the long grass and big pitch it was going to be a hard game. There was due to be three other matches at Brislington that day, but in the end, it was only us. This was our second chance to mix the players around a bit, however for this fixture we were without Finley, Liam, Tyler, and Oliwier.

The Game 1 line-up was:

Alfie
Ethem Cory
Finlay Bradley G James
Kaylum

Brislington started well as we struggled to get going in the game and a good move down their right saw them manage to get to the edge of the area. Cory did well to make a vital tackle and looked to play the ball down the line to Kaylum, however they got to the ball first and surged towards goal taking a shot from distance; Alfie doing well to get down and make a good save. Ethem cleared down the line to Finlay who pushed the ball up to James and he did well to beat one man before finding Bradley with a nice pass. Bradley went past his player laid the ball off to Kaylum whose shot took a deflection and went wide for a corner. James took a good corner which found Cory at the back post, and he hit a first time shot that was cleared off the line and away from danger. We were pressing and looking for a goal and a shot from Bradley was well saved and went narrowly wide. James took the corner,

but they managed to get to it first and they broke quickly on us; we tried to get back but a ball down the middle went to the tall striker who was well in the clear and once he got the ball, he was in the penalty area firing low and giving Alfie no chance **1-0**. It was hard for either side to get control of the game in the difficult conditions but another determined run from James saw his cross being deflected behind for another corner. James took another great corner which caused problems in the Brislington box, the ball coming back to Cory who hit a shot from distance that just went wide of the post. Finlay was quick to pounce on the ball on the halfway line before passing the ball in between two Brislington defenders to find Bradley who used his pace to get away from the defenders, but he could not quite get the ball under control and toe poked the ball past the keeper but wide of the post. Brislington created the last chance of the half working the ball down the middle and we were unable to get a tackle in and only a superb save from Alfie stopped us from going in 2-0 down at half-time.

HALF-TIME: BRISLINGTON 1 FRY 0

Brislington started the 2nd half on the front foot and a ball over the top caused us problems and only Alfie being alert to come off his line stopped them from doubling their lead. We were struggling to get our normal passing game going; this was due to a combination of the pitch, us seeming tired and Brislington being stronger were quicker to close us down and not give us much space. They pressured us at the halfway line and a quick ball saw them get behind us and they placed the ball into the corner to double their lead **2-0**. A good tackle from Finlay stopped them from getting in again, and he also managed to win the loose ball before passing down the line to Kaylum who worked hard to get to edge of the box before cutting the ball back to James who hit a shot from distance; the ball just going over the bar. Brislington went for the long ball again to their big lad up front, the ball bounced into his path, and he finished powerfully into the net **3-0**.

We kept trying but our normal quick passing game was missing and the normal energy that is shown by some players was not there, and we were struggling to break them down. Some good work by Cory and Bradley opened some space; Bradley working the ball to the by line before cutting it back to James who laid the ball off to Finlay who hit a first time shot which went wide of the post. There were no more chances as both sides cancelled each other out.

FULL-TIME: BRISLINGTON 3 FRY'S 0

The Game 2 line-up was:

Cory/Bradley G
 Tristen Keanu
 Aran Charlie Bradley W
 Bartek

Keanu did well to win the ball and then he played the ball out down the wing to Bartek who ran down the wing and used great skill to beat two players before shooting, the ball thumping of the post back to **Tristen** who hit the ball first time like an arrow into the back of the net **0-1**. We were playing well and a good pass from Bradley found Aran in space in their half; he ran to the edge of the area before shooting hard, the 'keeper doing well to make the save. Brislington broke on us quickly and we had overcommitted with Keanu on his own at the back, however he did very well to slow them down, giving our recovery runners time to charge back, and when they did try to cross the ball, he did very well to deflect it behind for a corner. They hit the corner into the box, but Cory caught the ball with nonchalant ease at his near post! He then rolled it out to Tristen who played a cracker of ball to Bradley, and he flicked the ball past his man before passing inside to Aran who did well to get the ball on to Bartek who from the edge of the area shot, and if not for a last-ditch block would have scored, however the ball went out for a corner. Charlie took a great corner onto the box, but Brislington defended it well before clearing high into the autumn sky. Bradley kept his eyes on the ball and made a great header, the ball going out wide to Charlie who looked up and made a delightful pass to **Aran** who used his pace to sprint clear of the Brislington defenders and was clear on goal, then waited for the 'keeper to make a move and slid the ball past him into the net **0-2**. Brislington were trying to play some football and managed to get a shot away that was well saved by Cory, behind for a corner. Keanu got to the ball first and cleared the danger and then Aran getting to the ball, and he was away on goal shooting just outside the box, the ball going just wide.

HALF-TIME: BRISLINGTON 0 FRY'S 2

We were first on the attack in the 2nd half with Aran causing them all sorts of problems with his pace and skill and from one of his runs he found Bradley who whipped in a delightful ball that Bartek did well to get to get to, his shot beating the 'keeper but just going the wrong side of the post. Some good work saw Bradley win the ball and get into space down the left before passing into Charlie just inside the Brislington half; **Charlie** ran towards goal and as the Brislington defence came to close him down hit a bullet of a shot that gave the 'keeper no chance, scoring a great goal **0-3**. A rare attack by Brislington saw them have two attackers against Keanu who again defended well to slow them down and force them out wide; they tried to play the ball into the middle, but he had read the situation and smothered the ball before sending us on our way again. We were on top and were playing some great football and a quick throw out from Bradley found Tristen who laid it to Charlie, and a wonderful pass from Charlie found Aran who worked hard to give himself a yard of space before turning and shooting, the 'keeper did well to make a good save but was unable to keep hold of the ball and **Bartek** was first to react and was quick to sort his feet out before poking the ball home **0-4**. From the kick-off Tristen did well to win the ball back and he passed out wide to Bradley who passed inside to Charlie who took a shot from distance; the ball looked like it was going to drift wide, but **Bartek** had continued his run and got to the ball to deflect it into the net **0-5**. The boy's confidence was now sky high and a great passing move involving Bradley, Aran and then Charlie playing a fantastic ball to Bartek saw him go around the defender and looked like he was going to get his hat-trick, but his shot was well saved by the 'keeper. The ref then blew the final whistle to end a great performance from the boys.

FULL-TIME: BRISLINGTON 0 FRY'S 5

OVERALL: BRISLINGTON 3 FRY'S 5

Afterthoughts.....

Well done to all the boys in very testing conditions with no subs. In Match 1 the boys had the tougher game with Brislington going strong; the boys also struggled to get their passing game going and at times lacked concentration, but they kept going to the end and with some good saves from Alfie kept the score down to give the 2nd team the opportunity to turn it around. The football from the boys in the 2nd game, albeit against a weaker opposition was a joy to watch; from Goalkeeper to attack they played out of their skins and a special mention to Keanu who at times was a one-man defensive wall, keeping Brislington; it was a joy to watch. Well done and on to Warmley next week.