



FRY CLUB COLTS

U10 MATCH REPORT U10

Number 14 - 'All was lost, But that the heavens fought.' - Sunday 3rd December 2017

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We welcomed Imperial to Manor Road; we had beaten them in the cup-final in October, but they had beaten us by the odd goal at their place earlier in the season, so we knew we were in for a tough game! We were missing a few players with Tyler, Charlie, Ethem and Oliwier not able to make it. Also, Andy was away on his travels (again) and Gaz in London leaving Paul, Lee, and Mark to guide the troops.

The Game 1 line-up was:

Alfie
Finley Cory
Bartek James Bradley W
Kaylum

Imperial started well and we were soon on the back foot, but a good tackle from Finley prevented them getting a shot away. They were quicker to the loose ball and fired in a shot which Alfie did well to save. Alfie rolled the ball to Cory who played it down the line to Bradley and he did well to beat one man and then pass inside, however they were on to the pass like a flash and hit a long ball forward to where the striker had got behind our defence and he turned and got a shot away; Alfie making a great save but the Imperial player was first to the loose ball and smashed it in **0-1**. A good run from James got him to the Imperial box and he played the ball to Bartek who weaved his way to the by-line before shooting from a narrow angle; the 'keeper doing well to save the ball and came to Kaylum a couple of yards and somehow the ball managed to hit the post and go out for a corner. From a goal-kick the 'keeper played it short before the defender launched a ball

over all our heads to the big striker up-front and he was in the clear and a mirror image of the first goal saw his shot was well saved before the same player as the first goal got to the rebound first to hit past the unlucky Alfie **0-2**. Imperial were totally on top now and some world class saves from Alfie prevented them from scoring again. A ball that came into our box was well defended by Finley, but his clearance was deflected to their wide player. Cory did well to make the initial tackle and was unfortunate to see the ball hit the player's legs and drop kindly for him to fire in for his hat-trick **0-3**. From the kick-off they were on us like a flash and nicked the ball off us before carrying on unchallenged giving Alfie no chance as the ball was rifled in **0-4**. A good run from Bradley on the left managed to get us into the Imperial half and he passed inside to Bartek who managed to get a toe on the ball to get it James who worked himself a yard before shooting, the ball just going inches over the bar.

HALF-TIME: FRYS 0 IMPERIAL 4

We got our passing game going and a good ball from Cory found James in the middle of the pitch. James turned his player and played the ball out wide to Bartek who ran to the edge of the penalty area before passing back to James who had continued his run, **James** shot low and hard past the 'keeper into the corner of the net **1-4**. Some good defending from Bradley to get to the ball first and go round the attacker was excellent; he then passed down the line to Cory who used his pace to go past a player and headed for goal where he hit a low shot that just went the wrong side of the post. Imperial were still causing us problems with the long ball and again finding the big striker; Alfie was quickly out his goal to narrow the angle and make a good save, Kaylum doing well to get back and clear the ball out for a corner. They got to the corner a first and another good save from Alfie prevented them from scoring. The game was now end-to-end and a quick break from Bartek fed the ball to James who did well to get a shot away, the 'keeper just getting a finger on it, putting it behind for a

corner. We all went forward and once they cleared it the striker had a free run-on goal; the player waited for Alfie to make his move before firing past him into the net **1-5**. We tried to get a goal back and some excellent attacking play between Bartek, James and Cory saw the ball come to Cory on the edge of the area and this time he went across the 'keeper who saved the ball, and just as it looked like Bartek would tap the ball in the defender got back and nicked it off Bartek's toe. They broke quickly but Finley came across and made a vital tackle to prevent them scoring again before the ref blew the final whistle.

FULL-TIME: FRYS 1 IMPERIAL 5

The Game 2 line-up was:

Cory
 Keanu Tristen
 Liam Aran Bradley G
 Finlay

We started really and a ball from Bradley sent Aran away who got clear of the defence before shooting just wide. We closed them down well with Aran and Bradley putting them under pressure and they managed to hoof the ball to the halfway line, but Tristen had read the situation and got it first before passing to Aran who cleverly went past two players before shooting low past the 'keeper but also the far post. Tristen played the ball up-to halfway where Bradley got to it first; he beat one man before playing a delightful ball splitting the Imperial defence to find **Liam** who powered forward before hitting a crisp shot past the 'keeper into the net **1-0**. We were playing some great football and moving the ball around well and a great ball from Liam found Bradley who got into space before shooting inches the wrong side of the post. We were dominating the play but from a long ball they had got it to the penalty area; Keanu did well to slow them down and let us get back, but they got the ball into the area and managed to turn, the shot taking a slight deflection to wrong foot Cory and the ball trickled into the net **1-1**. Keanu was standing firm in defence and some of the tackles were great to watch as he had the attitude that no one was going to pass him; from one of his crunching tackles he got up first and found Aran who from the halfway line went past two players to dance into the penalty area; after doing all the hard work though he mistimed his shot and the ball went wide. A great tackle from Aran won the ball and he then fed it up the line to **Liam** who sprinted past the defender and was clear; he looked up and hit the exact same shot as earlier with the same result as the ball flew past the 'keeper into the net **2-1**. We had one more

chance with Bradley's shot well saved by the 'keeper.

HALF-TIME: FRYS 2 IMPERIAL 1

Imperial started the 2nd half much stronger and kept us pinned back, but some cracking defending from Tristen and Keanu prevented chances coming in on goal for a while and the boys in midfield worked back well to help them as well. They did manage to get into the penalty area and get a shot; Cory doing well to get a foot to the ball to deflect it behind for a corner. We defended the original corner well with Finlay clearing the ball to the edge of the area, but they got to the loose ball first, shooting from outside the area and before Cory could react it was in the back of the net 2-2. We were still attacking well and a good ball from Aran found Liam out wide; he hit his shot first time, the ball just going over the bar. Imperial were soon attacking but Tristen came across and made a vital challenge then found Bradley who got the ball into their half before finding Aran who worked inside the area before shooting, the 'keeper just getting a finger on to it to knock it behind for a corner. A good corner from Bradley saw Keanu's effort cleared off the line and we were now back on top. Bradley did well to win a 50/50 ball in the middle of the pitch and get the ball through to **Aran** who ran to the penalty spot before calmly passing the ball past the 'keeper into the bottom corner of the net 3-2.

A nice pass down the wing from Tristen found Liam and he cut inside and found a nice pass to Aran who battled well to just outside the area before sliding a pass to **Bradley** who used his strength to beat the defender and get his shot away; the 'keeper did well to get a hand to it but could not prevent going in 4-2. We were going for it now and some quick passing FROM Bradley and Aran found Finlay in space; he did well to beat a player before passing across the pitch to Liam who got to the corner of the box before shooting just wide.

FULL-TIME: FRYS 4 IMPERIAL 2

OVERALL: FRYS 5 IMPERIAL 7

Afterthoughts.....
Another overall close game that Imperial just edged. In Game 1 we gave 100% effort but struggled to get a grip on the game giving Imperial too much time to find their passes and giving them too much space and if not for Alfie in goal could have lost by a few more; saying that they kept going and did well to draw the 2nd half. In the Game 2 we were the dominant side and with some better finishing could have won by enough goals to give us the overall win. It was a good effort by the boys with no subs in both games and Imperial were able to freshen it up and give boys a rest. On to the next one!