



FRY CLUB COLTS

U11 MATCH REPORT U11

Number 2 - **Only the dead have seen the end of war.** - Sunday 9th September 2018

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On a glorious early Autumn Sunday morning we welcomed Oldland to Manor Road for the first home game of the season; we have not played Oldland for a couple of seasons in a match, but we lost to them in a tournament over the summer, so we knew we were in for a tough game. For the first game of the season all the players were there meaning we had seven substitutes.

The line-up was:

Alfie

Tristen Ethem Finley

James Tyler Bradley W

Bradley G Kaylum

Substitutes: Finlay, Cory, Josh, Liam, Charlie, Bartek & Keanu

It took 5-10 minutes for both sides to settle down and get into the rhythm of the game, the best chance coming to Kaylum after a good ball through from James, with the ball coming to Kaylum who got to the edge of the area before

shooting just wide. Oldland was attacking well but our defence stayed solid with some good tackles from Finn and Tristen and getting some good blocks in preventing shots. We were conceding a few corners which they were whipping into the box, but we were defending well with Bradley G getting his head to clear three on the trot. Bradley W was working really hard on the left side and got the ball just inside our half before cutting the ball inside to Tyler who knocked the ball past the defender before shooting from distance, the 'keeper doing well to save. We were breaking with pace and good ball to Kaylum found him in space, but Kaylum's shot went wide. The game started to open, and they attacked quickly and then cut the ball into the penalty area and got a good shot away and forced a great save from Alfie who pushed the ball past the post. A good clearance from Ethem found James who laid the ball off to Bradley G who got a shot away which was well saved by the 'keeper. We then made our subs with all seven coming on. A good corner from Charlie found Bradley who laid the ball back to Liam who shot high, however the 'keeper was a big lad and managed to catch the ball. From a throw they held us off and got to the edge of the area before shooting, and we were unable to get a block in and the shot flew by Alfie **0-1**. They were playing some good football and got to

the edge of the area and got away another shot which went just wide. Alfie played the ball out wide to Cory who played a great ball down the line to Charlie who with a delicate little ball found Bartek and he went a mazy run, beating two players and got inside the box before trying to find the bottom corner, but the shot just went wide. Bradley G won the ball in midfield and passed to Charlie who in turn found Liam, but his first time shot just went wide. Oldland broke down the middle, but Josh got a vital tackle in before passing out wide to Finlay who took the ball down the right before crossing to Bartek, who shot towards goal with the 'keeper making a good save.

HALF-TIME: FRYs 0 OLDLAND 1

A good start by Oldland saw them attack at us down the middle; Ethem attempted to clear the ball, but it got blocked and fell to one of their attacking players who hit a shot that looked destined for the top corner only for Alfie to spring into action and make a great save! A quick break from us and a great ball from Tyler found Kaylum in space and he shot from a long way out; the 'keeper making a good save to keep the score at 1-0. Oldland then started to dominate the game and only some great saves from Alfie and solid defending from Tristen and Finley kept them from extending the lead. We had a throw which Ethem took and found Kaylum who flicked the ball to James, and he played a lovely through ball to **Liam** who took a touch and moved forward to the edge of the area and hit a long hard shot into the bottom corner, a great finish **1-1**. Alfie found Finley and he played a nice little ball to Bradley W who went on a good run and unleashed a thunderbolt of a shot which the 'keeper was unable to hold, and **Kaylum** was there to bundle it in **2-1**. They mounted the pressure

and a cracking shot beat Alfie but luckily for us hit the inside of the post and bounced back out for a goal kick. Alfie then made another couple of world class saves that kept our lead intact. The defence was holding up strong with Finlay Cory and Josh putting their all in to get blocks and tackles made. Charlie was working hard in midfield as well, and a good pass found Bartek who touched the ball past the defender and shot across the goal, their 'keeper getting down well to make a good save. The game then became a battle in midfield, and we were holding our own and battling well. A good tackle from Bradley G stopped one of their attacks and he found Liam out wide who did well to get to the edge of the area and found Bartek in space who took a touch before shooting, the 'keeper saving well. Oldland tried to get the goal that would get them the draw and a through ball seemed to stretch us, but Josh came across and got a great tackle in and Cory completed the clearance. There was no more time, and we had a victory in our first League game.

FULL-TIME: FRYs 2 OLDLAND 1

Afterthoughts.....

A good win to start the season against a team which passed the ball well and were quick in their movement. Over the game both sides created chances but the most shots on goal were from Oldland and Alfie was on outstanding form and got a special mention from the opposition manager saying he was the Man of the Match. Our passing was not as good as it can be and we still need to work on positioning as we are sitting too deep in defence and our attacking players were pushing too far forward, leaving a big gap in the middle; this is something we will work on and improve. The effort from the boys though was fantastic and even making so many subs did not affect them. On to Ashton next week.