



## **FRY CLUB COLTS**

# **U11 MATCH REPORT U11**

Number 16 - **How can you have a war on terrorism when war itself is terrorism?** - Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2019

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We welcomed Port of Bristol to Manor Road on a grey February Sunday morning. After a lot of rain in the 48 hours before the match the pitch passed a late inspection. We have never played Port of Bristol as they normally play on a Saturday morning, so this would be a new challenge for the boys. Unfortunately, a sickness bug had deprived us of the following James, Tyler, Bradley W and Bartek. Kaylum did play but was injured as well. Andy was away and with Lee out with a bad back it was left to Paul, Gaz, and Mark to guide the troops.

The line-up was:

Alfie  
Tristen    Liam    Ethem    Cory  
Josh    Kaylum    Bradley G    Finley

Substitute: Keanu

We were shooting uphill in the first half. They started well and were passing the ball around and a ball came through the middle, and they shot hard and low, Alfie making a good save. We looked to play the ball out from the back and a good ball from Tristen found Josh and he looked to play the ball forward and they knocked it out for a throw. Kaylum took the throw and found Bradley and he went past the defender before shooting across the 'keeper, but the ball drifted just wide. They went long and a flick on from one of their defenders beat our offside trap and they were clean on goal and slotted the ball past Alfie **0-1**. They had most of the possession, but we were defending well and a good tackle from Josh set us on a rare attack and a great ball from Josh found Bradley. With no one out wide he had to go forward on his own and he beat a defender before shooting, the 'keeper making a good save, then they broke down their right side but Cory had kept track of the winger and when he went to cut inside Cory made a great tackle getting the ball off of him and passing down the wing to Finley who passed inside to Bradley who burst forward with great pace and threaded a ball through to Josh who hit a cross/shot that just drifted past the far post. They were passing the ball well in the

middle of the pitch and we backed off a bit and did not get a tackle in and they shot low and hard giving Alfie no chance **0-2**. We spent the rest of the half defending but the boys stayed compact and in shape, Keanu making a very good tackle to prevent a shot on goal and Liam making an important block as well, so they were unable to score again before the half finished.

**HALF-TIME: FRYS 0 POB 2**

We started the 2<sup>nd</sup> half well and a good ball from Bradley found Josh who pushed the ball forward to Kaylum and he managed to get a shot away which just went wide. The 'keeper kicked the ball long and Cory did well to get to the ball first. He passed the ball inside to Liam who passed the ball up-to **Bradley** and he skipped past one defender then cut inside another before shooting low; it looked like the 'keeper would save the shot, but it went through his legs and trickled into the back of the net **1-2**. We were trying to get forward and a nice pass from Cory found Bradley, who with no one with him powered forward with the ball and tried his luck from distance, the 'keeper this time diving on the ball just in time. The 'keeper launched the ball into the air, and it soared into our half, and they reacted quicker and charged towards Alfie! With no one in front of him he tried to close the angle down and they slotted the ball into the bottom corner **1-3**. We then started to tire and were struggling to get out of our half, Cory and Liam were working hard and closing them down well to protect Alfie, and Ethem was making some important tackles but on more than one occasion Alfie was called into action and he made some amazing saves! We were done again though by another long ball where we got caught out for them to score **1-4**. We battled away to prevent them scoring again but we were unable to create anything in their half for the rest of the game.

**FULL-TIME: FRYS 1 POB 4**

**Afterthoughts.....**

*This was a hard game against a decent side. Unfortunately, due to illness we were unbalanced with the players we had available, with the four who were missing our more attack-minded players. The boys who played in most cases battled hard and gave their best, however there is still a tendency for a couple of the boys to let the rest do the work for them, and if a couple of players have this attitude it is a struggle for the rest. Thank you to Keanu for stepping in at short notice and special praise to Bradley Grinter who covered every blade of grass and did not stop running. Next game is Keynsham where hopefully everyone will be available.*