FRY CLUB COLTS U12 MATCH REPORT U12

Number 8 - Who knows? Have patience. Go where you must go, and hope! - Sunday 24th November 2019

U12 MATCH REPORT U12 MATCH REPORT CLIFTON CHARGERS V FRY CLUB COLTS

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We travelled up to Clifton on a cold and frosty morning to play a Clifton Chargers Team who had given us a tough match at our place. We had come out on top 1-0 with a defensive display, but how would we fare on their pitch? Unavailable were Bradley G, Cory & Tyler so the squad picked itself and with Mark not there Andy recorded the Match Report, hence the paucity of the highlights:

The line-up was:

Alfie

Ethem Tristen Josh Finn

Bartek James Oakley Bradley W

Substitutes: Kaylum & Keanu

After some pressure the match settled down and an early opportunity for us saw Bradley bring the ball down out of the air, advance down the wing and locate James in the middle and he took one touch before hitting a pile driver to the 'keeper's left, but unfortunately just at the right height, and the 'keeper was able to dive and push it away for a corner which we couldn't make anything of. There was a skirmish on the right, Josh won his tackle and then Tristen slid in to win his and in doing so got Tristen came across to the Management Team to ask to be subbed of his injury, but the game played on and Clifton used the space on the edge of our area to unleash a low shot which Alfie couldn't quite get to 1-0. We worked our way down the line through a series of throws and then Finn threw to James who crossed, it hit a defender and deflected towards their 'keeper however he dropped it and Bartek pounced, and was just inches away as the 'keeper regained possession.

HALF-TIME: CLIFTON CHARGERS 1 FRYS 0

Clifton attacked down their left at pace and we were scrabbling back and slightly out of position; Tristen couldn't quite get there but Finn was just able to get his thigh to it, and just like the 1987 FA Cup Final (only in mirrored reverse) the ball flew up off of Finn's thigh and looped over Alfie into the top right corner **2-0**. Clifton had a corner on the right which they swung over and it flew off of the knee of their big lad and cannoned onto the left post and back, and after a scrabble we eventually cleared it. We were creating many opportunities if not the final attempt, and for long periods of the second half Clifton could not get out of their half, but we were unable to turn that control and possession into a clear-cut chance, and right at the end they made us pay, as yet again we were attacking in numbers when they won the ball and broke at pace on their right, and got behind our back line, so that the ball across left Alfie exposed to the simple tap in at the back post **3-0**. It wasn't over and we attacked through Keanu down the right, and he turned back, found Ethem whose cross reached Bartek and his shot was saved out to Bradley and he shot, this time parried out to Ethem and his shot flew narrowly wide.

FULL-TIME: CLIFTON CHARGERS 3 FRYS 0

Afterthoughts.....

I was really, really proud of the players, not so much because of the performance, but for the sheer effort and determination that they showed on the pitch. Normally when we make substitutions the boys are disappointed to be coming off, but today at least four players asked to come off as they were exhausted and I brought off two more who didn't ask, but I could see they were running on empty. Add to that at least two injured but who went back on and you have a Team determined to give everything for the Team, and for me all three goals had mitigating circumstances; one, we had eight players on, two; deflected own-goal and three; we were pushing to get goals back and they caught us on the break. Due to my absorption in the drama of the match this Match Report does not do the match justice (sorry) as we had more possession and control than the score line suggests, and whilst they had more shots, we still created enough of our own. Well done boys.