

Tuesday, 31 August 2010

Dave Embleton

Lothian Buses South East Region 14s League Division 1

Spoils Shared in Scrappy Encounter

AC Oxfangs 1 Salvesen 1

Half-Time 1-0

Scorers

Lewis

ACO Man of the Match

Lewis takes the plaudits this week - partly for his well taken goal but also for his work ethic in chasing through balls, tackling back and giving the Salvesen defenders something to think about for the whole 70 minutes.

With the early rounds of the cup competitions coming thick and fast at this time of year, it is important not to forget about the bread and butter of the league and to get off to a decent start in that competition. ACO now have a win, a loss and a draw from their first 3 league games which is a decent if not spectacular return.

This game will not be remembered for flowing football - the ball spent far too long in the air for that and both teams struggled to put a string of passes together but on the positive side the boys scrapped hard for a well earned point.

The game started with both teams looking slow and off the pace. The central defences of both teams were dealing with the long ball pretty well and it took a skilful piece of dribbling from Fin to create the first chance for Lewis but the keeper was out to snuff out the chance. Lewis then created a chance for himself when he chased down a long ball and forced a slip from the keeper but the angle was against him and the shot found the side netting. Salvesen then created a shooting chance and Jonny was grateful to see the shot dip too late and just clear the bar. The games first piece of passing saw ACO work the ball well to Elliot who passed the ball wide to Shaun in a little space but the defence forced him wide and the chance slipped away. From an Elliot free kick, Lewis got the header away but the keeper saved.

The ACO breakthrough came when Kerr battled his way through 3 tackles on the right touchline before passing to Lewis who advanced down the inside right channel and slipped the ball past the onrushing keeper to give ACO the lead.

Salvesen tested Jonny with a couple of long distance shots but ACO got to halftime without a real threat on their goal.

Half-Time 1-0

The second half opened with another piece of Fin trickery creating space for a shot but it was charged down well and Salvesen cleared. If anything the second half was less exciting than the first and it was a real midfield battle. Murray was working hard and came into the game in the second half but the defences of both teams continued to dominate. Your correspondent thought that AC had taken a two goal lead direct from a corner but I was the only person cheering as the ball was on the top of the net and not inside it ... time for a visit to the

opticians. ACO then conceded the equaliser direct from a corner when the very tall Salvesen player produced a good header which flew past Jonny.

Lewis then outpaced the Salvesen defence from a Jonny kick out and was in on goal but bizarrely was given offside. To be honest, the match then became niggly and very stop/start and the only chances were going to come from set pieces lumped into the box. However both defences gave little away and the match petered out.

Full-Time 1-1

This was a strange game which in the first 20 mins seemed to be played at half pace. There were too many misplaced passes and too many first touches going astray but hey it's another point. ACO edged the first half on half chances but over the 70 mins, a draw was probably about right. On another day, we could have sneaked the win but (looking for the positives) the draw extends the unbeaten run to 3 games. Back to Cup business on Sunday.

Please note our Match Reports are written from an AC Oxfords perspective and are primarily intended for the benefit of our players, officials and supporters. Understandably, our match reporters will focus on our own performance but this does not imply that the contribution of the opposing team has been deliberately undervalued.

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