

Sunday, 29 August 2010
Malcolm Henderson

SYFA Scottish Cup 1st Round

The Sun Shines Again in Leith

Leith Athletic 97 2 AC Oxfangs Blues 3

Half-Time 2-2

ACO Man of the Match

Max had a good game at right back to help the rest of the defence who all deserve praise. The midfield were full of running with Charlie playing his best game this season so far. Mitchell, Jamie and Nicky always posed a threat, but my MOM this week is going to a player who was carrying an injury and offered to play in goal if Royce could not make it. He managed to come off the bench and score the winning goal before being fouled as he went to score his second – MOTM this week is Elliot

		Royce		
Matty		Ben	Andrew	Jacob
	Charlie	Scott	Kai	Fudge
		Jamie	Mitchell	

Subs: Chris, Max, Hamish, Nicky, Elliot

The Blues kicked off with the wind advantage and could have scored early on if Jamie had stayed onside. The commitment was better and they looked at ease until Leith opened the scoring when the Blues defence froze expecting an offside decision which never came. It was like last Sunday, we need to play the whistle.

However, the equaliser came quickly as Charlie made good ground down the right and passed the ball to Jamie who chipped the keeper and Mitchell followed the ball in and scored from close range.

Jamie put the Blues in front as he was again sent clear by Charlie and this time he scored himself going around the keeper. With the wind helping, the Blues should have added to their tally as many chances were squandered.

Just before half time Leith scored a good long range goal to bring the scores level.

Half-Time 2-2

The second half saw Chris, Hamish, Max and Nicky coming on with Max and Hamish at full back and Matty moving into the middle to give some pace into the wind.

The second half started with the Blues regaining control with some tidy passing moves but failing to finish them off properly. Max looked solid and the defence seemed to get on top of their opponents. The better chances were

coming the Blues way and eventually they were awarded a free kick on the edge of the box. Jamie hit the bar and Elliot who had just come on as he had a slight injury coolly slotted in the rebound to put the Blues back in front with 15 minutes to go.

All the back four were tackling strongly and the midfield were full of running in defence and Royce was rarely troubled. Jamie, Chris, Nicky and Mitchell showed good pace going forward and showed great restraint in the last 10 minutes in the face of 'robust' challenges that led to several cards being shown by the referee to the Leith team. The game ended and the Blues are through to the next round of the cup. I should mention how well we play when Royce is in goal and he is badly missed when he is injured.

Full-Time 2-3

This was a much improved performance, both disciplined and committed. Everyone played their part with the second half being particularly pleasing.

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