

Sunday, 31 October 2010
Iain Bruce

Development 12s League

Frustrating End to a Great Start

AC Oxfangs 3 Fernieside 4

Half-Time 3-1

Scorers

Joe, Josh, Harry.

ACO Man of the Match

A hard call today with nobody much stronger than anyone else, a good team performance but for his involvement in all three goals, this week's MotM has to go to Joe, he scored the first, he got an assist in Josh's goal and his strike was only parried by the Fernieside 'keeper allowing Harry in for AC's third, well done good to have him back in the team this week.

ACO were playing their first game in the new strips, complete with new sponsorship from LA Hair Solutions, a little ironic their first game should be against another side wearing dark blue, but the boys coped okay with any colour clashes, Fernieside strips having an illuminous flash on theirs to help distinguish between them.

It was a beautiful morning, perfect conditions for football and it was Fernieside with the first speculative shot of the game, a long range effort finishing wide of target and moments later they had a guilt edged chance that looked easier to score but the player somehow screwed his shot wide too.

They did however score with their next opportunity - while trying to press out from the back, Rory passed back to his defence to lump it up the park but Fernieside nipped in, stole the ball and scored a good goal from half a chance.

Fernieside put AC under pressure with a series of corners but in the fifteenth minute ACO were level again, Joe going on a solo run, strong as he shirked several challenges before slotting home a goal of quality. And a few minutes later AC had their noses in front, a quickly taken throw in from Rory found Joe who knocked it on for Josh to score another good goal, putting it across the 'keeper into the far left corner.

When Fernieside came pushing back it was Ewan sweeping up with some good clearances, quite brave at times putting his head in to win and clear the ball and Stephen was having another good game too after being MotM in the previous two fixtures, this save though was incredible - it was an excellent shot from Fernieside but Stephen got across his goal at full stretch to get fingertips on it to divert over his bar and out for a corner.

ACO increased their lead further with another well worked goal from the home team, in a good show of passing, AC worked the ball into a good area and Joe had an excellent shot at goal that the Fernieside 'keeper could only parry and up popped Harry, arriving late at the back post to mop up with a cracker, leaving the Fernieside 'keeper helpless.

Fernieside had another good attacking move before half time, Alex did really well as last man seeing it out for a corner and when the ball was played in, it struck a Fernieside players hand and the move broke down.

Half-Time 3-1

Charlie, on in the second half, almost scored from the re start, putting a beautiful ball across goal, at a slightly wrong angle for a direct shot and no takers to nip on to it in the box.

AC were always going to be made to pay for missing opportunities to further their lead and it was Fernieside that became the dominant side of this half, Ewan doing well to clear the first attack, the next one was wide - but in a bit of a show of calamitous defending, a mix up at the back let Fernieside in to narrow the margin. They also had another couple of chances to level things up, putting one wide and Bradley doing really well to clear another good chance. But AC were left slightly stranded when Fernieside put a sharp move together, midfield to right wing, a run up the flank, an expert cross in to the box met crisply, game level as Fernieside showed more about them in this half, clever man marking on Joe stifled AC's play and two tall players in the Fernieside defence were first to everything when AC tried to put an attack together.

Fernieside worked the ball into the AC defence again and a real goalmouth scramble ensued - Fernieside had five shots at goal before the inevitable goal followed and they were back in front, in all aspects disappointingly although ACO did manage a couple of late chances, Rory putting one wide and Ahmad put another good chance over the bar.

But it was Fernieside with the last two chances of the game, the first one Stephen saved but he was to have a slight "schoolboy error" moments later when he picked up a pass-back from his defender, the ref quite rightly awarded a free kick but the AC players were switched on and well organised to keep Fernieside out and leave the score line a far more reflective 3-4 than had they got another late one, 3-5 would have flattered their first half display.

Full-Time 3-4

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