

**Sunday, 15 May 2011**  
Geoff Stockham/Matt Holligan

**ESSDA Soccer Sevens Maradona Division**

# **Super-Sub Zac Seals Victory for AC**

## **AC Osgangs 4 Eskmill Blue 2**

**Half-Time 2-0**

**Scorers**

Christopher, Aaron H., Zac (2)

**ACO Man of the Match**

With another good performance from the whole squad, today's MOTM was always going to be difficult. After a lengthy discussion between coaches, they have decided to give a joint award making it a 'Men' of the Match award this week. Brodie and Keiran both this week had a brilliant performance firstly in defence, keeping a clean sheet in the first half and then when they came back on in the second half, this time both in midfield they gave another great performance. Well Done.

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This was the first meeting between these two teams this season, and ACO discovered that Eskmill were a very even match in an entertaining game at CMP.

Eskmill started well and Brodie and Kieran both needed to make long clearances in the first couple of minutes. Brodie then cleverly shielded a through ball from an Eskmill forward allowing it to roll safely back to Aaron in goal. At the other end Christopher turned well in the box and fired a shot in, but the keeper collected comfortably. ACO managed a short spell of pressure but couldn't get the ball into the box despite some good passing between Christopher, Leo and James. Eskmill then broke quickly but Kieran managed to stay with his man all the way back before conceding a corner. Aaron collected the corner comfortably, and quickly threw the ball to Aaron H in midfield, whose strong run worried the Eskmill defence. Then James managed to turn and shoot, forcing the keeper to a scrambling save to keep the ball from crossing the line.

Aaron H was making his presence felt in midfield and stole the ball well, before charging up the pitch to set up Christopher for a neat finish into the bottom corner to give ACO the lead. Eskmill then created a couple of chances, but Kieran headed clear then chased down the ball to send the ball upfield to James. He held up the ball well until Christopher arrived but Eskmill managed to get the ball away. Brodie picked up the loose ball and, seeing space in front of him, raced forward before sending in a fantastic cross right into the danger area, but unfortunately no ACO player was there to receive it.

The end-to-end action continued with Eskmill clear through on goal forcing Aaron to make an excellent save with his legs, then from the clearance Leo raced through on goal and the Eskmill keeper had to make an almost identical save. Aaron H then stole the ball again in midfield and sent the ball up for Leo to chase, causing panic in the Eskmill defence and winning a corner. Eskmill cleared this and Kieran and Brodie both had to make good tackles. The ball then went back up the other end, and James set up Christopher for a shot that just sneaked wide. James then had a shot himself, but this was saved, but Aaron H managed to follow up and bundle the ball into the net to double ACO's lead.

**Half-time 2-0**

ACO began the second half well, and Liam's long clearance found James who shot just wide. Leo then won the ball and sent it out to James on the wing who put in a high cross to Zac but his shot was wide. Eskmill then

broke quickly but Cillian stayed with his man and forced him wide, and Aaron comfortably collected the cross. Soon after, Eskmill once again were one-on-one with Aaron, but he made another good save. Liam cleared the resulting corner with a strong header at the near post. ACO then attacked, and James fired in a cross that bypassed the whole Eskmill defence to fall at Zac's feet just in front of the goal. He turned and the keeper just managed to get a foot to the ball.

Eskmill then scored a lucky goal, when Aaron made a good save and James tried to hoof the ball clear from the line, but unfortunately it struck Cillian's back and shot back into the net. It didn't seem to affect ACO though, and they continued to attack. Zac saw his shot go straight across the face of the goal. Aaron then made a really unorthodox save, catching the ball between his knees from one shot! Zac was causing all sorts of problems to the Eskmill defence, hitting the side netting, and also forcing a save after a neat one-two with Leo. Eskmill then managed another goal, slightly against the run of play, when Aaron saved a powerful shot, but the Eskmill forward was first to the rebound to slot home.

ACO responded immediately, first Brodie and then Kieran getting shots on target from just outside the box. Then Zac profited from a wayward Eskmill pass, and despite a scuffed shot, the ball trickled over the line to restore ACO's lead. Eskmill tried to get straight back in the game, and Liam cleared well before Cillian made an excellent clearance in the box from an awkwardly bouncing ball. Brodie picked up the loose ball and surged forward and slotted the ball through the defence to Zac who finished neatly to make the game safe for ACO. An excellent result in a very evenly matched game.

## **Full-Time 4-2**

### **Coaches Message:**

Very well done today boys - against tricky opposition we managed to get the result we wanted. With getting the ball on the ground, making some good quick passes, some very good tackling and at times having our shooting boots on, we deserved to get our result. Eskmill gave us a brilliant game and we had to earn the win, and we did. Well done again to everyone. See you Thursday.

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Please note our Match Reports are written from an AC Osgangs 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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