



Vs Edinburgh Uni 2s,
12th November 2008,
Peffermill, KO 2.00 pm



This week the 1s were travelling again, this week through to the capital to play Edinburgh Uni's 2nd team in the league. Before the game Pete stressed to the boys that in his mind it will be between "us and them" for the league and that the boys needed to be more than up for the task ahead. Another couple of 1st team debuts were handed out this week with Moray Grant and Paco making the step up from the 2s with both Andy Arbuckle and Aaron McAllister both missing this week due to other commitments. The team then lined up, Jordan in goals, a back four of Euan Godon, Moray Grant, Niall McLure, And Callum McIver, a midfield of John Rox, Kev Mc, Ruiridh Fraser, and Calum Murison, with a top two of Scott McFarlane and Murray Duff leaving Owen Robertson and Paco on the bench.

And so into the action, from the offset of the game, it was clear that the opposition were bigger and stronger than the smaller more technically able Clyde side and that Clyde would not come out on top if they tried to get involved with the physical side of things. It took the players 10 or 15 minutes to adjust to this and Edinburgh were applying some real pressure on the Clyde goal with a series of corners. After about 5 mins, Edinburgh had a corner on the left, the ball was whipped in and Jordan came and was beaten to the ball by an opposition player whos header went wide. This happend to be the only ball for the whole game that Jordan came for and didn't either catch comfortably or get a good two handed punch on the ball. This took a massive amount of pressure of off the Clyde back four. After about 20 mins, resident playboy Euan Godon had to come off with an injured calf which left Pete with a decision to make seeing as there were no more recognised defenders available in the squad. A decision was made to go 3 5 2 by bring Owen on to try and control the midfield area a bit better. Clydes only real attack of note in the 1st half was a Murray Duff free kick that he curled round the wall onto to see it rebound off the bar with the keeper well beaten.

At half time, the instructions were clear, to try and keep possession of the ball and try and use the wingers a bit more as everything seemed to be going down the middle and was causing no problems. Duffer and Owen were swapped so that Duffer could add a slight (and I mean it when I say slight) physical presence in the midfield area. A good save from Jordan resulted in disaster for the Clyde team. After Jordan getting down well to his left to parry a shot, the ball was failed to be cleared properly and an Edinburgh player was judged to have been brought down in the box after a shoulder challenge by Paco who was on to replace Ruiridh. The Edinburgh player put the penalty past the post providing a massive let off for the Clyde. The game sort of fizzled out after that with neither team creating any real chances, a few speculative efforts from Clyde players didn't bring any joy and with 5 mins to go, Clyde gambled by going to a 3 4 3 however no chances came.

In summary, Clyde were looking at the result as a very good point gained against our biggest rivals for the league on a tight pitch bobbly pitch that was difficult to play on. There were many positives taken from the game such as the hardwork, determination and graft that every Clyde player shoed to match the physical presence of the Edinburgh side. Next week the 1st team are back in action at home in the cup against Heriot Watt 3s.