



Vs Bishopton Athletic  
Bishopton  
Sat 13<sup>th</sup> December 2008  
KO 10.00 am

# GDSML

Going into the game second in the table with two games in hand Clyde were looking for another win to keep the pressure up on the other front runners in the league. A number of call offs and Pikey deciding to stay in his bed meant it was a much changed side from previous weeks. With the game being played on a marsh on the side of a hill Clyde lined up with Mitchell in goals and a back four of Bonus, Vincent, McCusker and Scott. Across the middle were Ross C, Tam, Beggsy and Shuta and John Rox and Mushy up front with Donald and McCusker Jnr on the bench.

A slow start from Clyde invited some early pressure from their opponents but some good defending and a few good saves from Mitchell prevented Bishopton from opening the scoring. Due to the dodgy surface Clyde struggled to play their usual passing game and were creating few chances for themselves. Just as they were beginning to find their feet a counter attack from Bishopton saw the ball swung in from the left hand side and the Bishopton striker nodded the ball into the corner. Clyde responded well with John Rox's movement up front causing problems for the Bishopton defence but Clyde were still struggling to get shots in on goal. With not long until half time the ball broke to the Bishopton centre mid just outside the box, he then rattled a 25 yarder off the bar and into the back of the net to double their lead. Clyde now badly needed a goal to stay in the game and it came right before half time. A long ball over the top from Beggsy found the run of Mushy out wide on the left. The Bishopton keeper decided to leave his front post wide open and Mushy just passed it into the back of the net to score his first Saturday goal in living memory, making the score 2-1 at half time.

Clyde started well in the second half with Donald on for Shuta on the left and Beggsy replaced by McCusker Jnr in the middle of the park. Keeping possession a lot better Clyde's final ball was the only thing missing and they still hadn't really tested the Bishopton goalie. A ball over the top of the Clyde defence put the Bishopton striker through on goal. Mitchell managed to force him wide and away from goal but then decided to chase him all the way over to the side line. The striker was able to turn and produce a brilliant finish lifting it over Scott's head who had got back to cover the front post. Scott was pushed forward to left mid and Donald put up front as Clyde went 3-4-3 desperately looking for goals. Despite having lots of pressure in the last 15 minutes they were unable to produce a goal the only highlight coming from Bruce who produced a moment of magic with a "glorious" back heel (he'll give you the 15 minute version of it if you ask).

In the end it was a disappointing 3-1 loss for the 3's, they were not at their best but it was by no means their worst performance of the season. McCusker named Mitchell as man of the match due some very good saves which kept Clyde in with a chance. It's their first loss with McCusker in charge and hopefully they'll be able to bounce back and keep on pushing for top spot in the league.