



Somerset Soccer Club

EST 1979

UNDER 18'S 10/07/2010

Improvement Again

This game was a big one for our young team to see if they could maintain the improvement they have made this year. First time we played Launceston city we snagged our first win of the season and I was asking no less than a win this time. First game we kept our first clean sheet of the season and got away with a 3-0 win. I was confident that we could get a win this time but the score line I couldn't be sure of, as we had been finding it hard to get the ball into the net in recent weeks. Up until this game Andrew Richards was still our leading goal scorer with 3 and he scored his last goals in the first game against city. Our warm up today looked a bit different, as we didn't appear to be as slow as usual but then when we started the game it looked a little slow. It was obvious that city were trying to play an offside trap as they tried to bunch everything up. They didn't really seem like they knew how to do it as it only took 5 minutes to break through with Bryce palmer latching onto a deep through ball and outpaced his markers and calmly slotted into the net for a 1-0 lead. This was short lived as city's playmaker had a long strike that was deflected off one of our defenders and slammed into our net. Disappointing but we didn't lose our stride.

I have been saying all year that you cant score a goal unless you shoot and how true it was today when off a corner the ball popped out to the top of the box and our centre back Brody Best hit a lovely curling ball that was heading towards the goals but it instead hit our newest forward in Leewin Hartley for his first goal for the club. 2-1 and again this was short-lived as another high shot headed towards our goals and although Nathan got back to it and palmed it out before he fell into the goals with the ball some sloppy marking let their striker through for an easy tap in. This only kicked us into gear and led to some more free flowing football in which we score 2 more goals before half time one of which was superb piece of football that was built up from defence and we held possession all the way up the field and played through 4-5 players before we settled on Bryce Palmer getting the sides third and his second for the day. This is the best piece of attacking team play I have seen by our young team.

About 5 minutes before half time another cross was put over only to fall at the feet of Ryan Liston who neatly slotted into the corner for a 4-2 half time score line and another first goal for the year.



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At half time I brought the boys back down to earth and told them they had achieved nothing as their job was only half done and they needed to pick their game up if they were to maintain or extend this lead. This was our best attacking game to date but it wasn't a real pretty style of football, so I then asked for more from them and they did what I asked. They kept a clean sheet for the second half and also managed to score 2 more goals both from pieces of individual brilliance.

The second half in general was a much better display of what I know the boys can play. Their defensive pressure was fantastic and they attacked majority of the time with patience. It was good football to watch and even though we were less productive in our goals scoring than the first half I was very pleased with their efforts. Our fifth goal was a storming run from defence from our wing back Stuart Batt who cruised past 6 players in a looping run only to have his shot deflected past the keeper. As was Stuarts goal, our last was also a piece of individual brilliance as Bryce Palmer gathered the ball about 30m out from goal and ran into to the box to tough the ball wide of the keeper(a little too wide), so he turned back and beat the keeper and another defender again before slotting with ease into the empty goal for his first hat-trick for the club and our teams new leading goal scorer. A great day in which the club was very proud of the boys, and we got to sing the song again. It was also good to get Nathan Shrosbree and Brody best their first win at the club as they both missed our first one. Congratulations boys, exciting things to come.