

Match Report - Sunday 6th December

Boys Under 16 Development (Friendly)

Surbiton 2 Woking 2

A strange day in that we only had 14 out of 32 boys available to play club hockey, thanks to Fraser and Giles for helping out the U18s who were also short.

I thought it was a great match at Surbiton and I was more than happy with a 2-2 draw meaning Woking U16 boys maintain their record of having only been defeated once in 16 matches.

At the start of the match I was asked by Surbiton if we would like to play 25 minute each way, to which I replied no we usually play the full 35, OK no worries he said and proceeded to play 25 minute halves, what can you do?

It was a quick end to end match with all players working hard and contributing to the team, I could tell by the parents on the side that it was an enjoyable and exciting game to watch. We passed the ball around well at the beginning of the half and our first goal was soon slotted in by Paddy McGrath, playing centre forward he had made good use of the space and the long balls fired up accurately from midfield, a job well done and mirrored in the second half by Matt le Brocq who changed places with Paddy and scored our second goal, keeping a very cool head calmly pushing the ball in to the goal. as we were only 11, several boys had to play out of position, a task which they not only accepted without fuss but also performed very well, great stuff boys thank you.

The hard working defence was controlled by Guy at sweeper and was supported well by Mark who I know wasn't feeling 100%, Paddy/Matt and Dominic who had a very good individual game! With Joe and Matt providing some real strength and good ball distribution at centre and right mid and supported well by James fighting his corner on the left. On the Wings Dan positioned himself beautifully on the left and slipped a few good balls across towards the D while Harry ran his socks off constantly fighting for the ball on the right. Coming from 2-1 down to recover a 2-2 draw was a real achievement well done all.

What could we do better? At times our passing went a little astray when we just started belting the ball up the pitch rather than the controlled accurate passing that we had displayed so well earlier, we must concentrate on finding our target. Our finishing too could be improved as we had one or two chances that should have been converted. Otherwise a very good performance.