

RTYFC COLTS 0 – 4 RTYFC EAGLES

If ever there was a test to see just how well this Colts team are gelling after a satisfying start to the season, today's game was it. Both sets of players observed an impeccable minutes silence to commemorate armistice day prior to the kick off, then we were under way and all thoughts of peace and tranquillity went out of the window.

The Colts showed their intent from the off as they looked get on the front foot and put the unbeaten Eagles under a bit of pressure and for the first quarter of the game they managed to keep the league leaders at bay. The game was being played at a quick pace with some physical challenges going in all over the park and despite the Eagles having the best of the chances, they were reduced to trying their luck from distance which the Colts would have been more than happy with until a touch of class on seventeen minutes finally broke the deadlock. A great strike from just outside the box put the Eagles 1-0 up, then five minutes later that lead was nearly doubled when a looping header beat Marcel but fortunately it struck the post. Five minutes before the break the Colts were almost rewarded for a great battling first half performance when Harry broke through to get his toe onto a ball that was shut out in the nick of time by the Eagles defence. The ball broke for Ollie who struck the follow up shot well which looked certain to bring us level but that too was deflected agonisingly wide. As the half time whistle sounded and the result still in the balance it was probably those in the Colts camp who were happier with the 1-0 score line.

Within a few minutes of the restart the Eagles went 2-0 up with a soft goal when a rare slip from the Colts keeper saw the ball cross the line and with their tails up, the Eagles began to pile on the pressure. Marcel made a great reflex save ten minutes after the goal to atone for the earlier mistake when he stopped a well struck shot from close range. The likes of Jack Thrower in defence were throwing themselves at everything to keep us in the game. Alfie Ricketts showed some great composure at the back to stifle wave after wave of attack and Marcel made another fine save with fifteen minutes remaining but the pressure finally paid off for our visitors as a parried shot was quickly pounced upon and the Colts found themselves 3-0 down. Another high quality move from the Eagles that was finished off with a headed goal rounded off the scoring just before the end to make it Colts 0 Eagles 4.

Despite the final score line, the boys should be very proud of their achievements today. This was a game played against a side who have thrashed other league one sides a lot heavier than this and will probably win this league comfortably. The encouraging thing is that the heads didn't go down, the spirit within the team is good and the fight and determination throughout the whole squad is clear to see.

Andy echoed this with his praise for the players commitment after the game and Ollie, who worked his socks off all morning in midfield, tracking back and driving forward at every opportunity, was handed today's man of the match trophy.

All in all this was a good game to watch played in a great spirit. Well done to our friends The Eagles who are a class team but well done Colts too, hold your heads high and keep fighting!