

12th Mar 2014

BSFC Academy FC Match Report

Romford Reds FC

Bishop's Stortford FC



Bishop 's Stortford 1 - 2 Romford Reds : HT 1 - 1

Football Conference Youth Alliance

A Ben Smith penalty in the third minute of stoppage time and with almost the last kick of the match saw the Blues' Academy side through to three points in a closely fought contest. Key to the second Youth Alliance victory of the season was an excellent second half performance, full of good teamwork, which culminated with the winner from the spot.

The hosts looked to have the edge early on with striker Jason Koke going close after five minutes with a shot clearing the bar. However there were few openings created by either side on a hard bobbly pitch.

The Reds' keeper George Martin did well to punch clear a free-kick from Ben Smith under pressure from Bradley Jarvis in the 27th minute but the Blues took the lead two minutes later. Jordan Barra lofted a deep cross from the left touchline towards Martin's goal and the ball struck the underside of the bar and bounced down to leave JACK ISHERWOOD with the simple chance to head into the net from a couple of yards (0-1).

Tim Moylette's side enjoyed a good spell up to the break but were rocked when Romford equalised a minute before the interval. JASON KOKE, with his back to goal and with Stortford players around him, swivelled to strike a rising unstoppable 25 yard shot past Cameron Robson dive and into the top corner of the net (1-1).

Half time: 1-1

The Blues began the second half in the fashion that they were to continue for the rest of the game. Jack Isherwood put the ball in the Romford net within the first 37 seconds but he was ruled offside and another goal was disallowed eight minutes later when Mason Naylor netted.

Alex Warman shot just over the bar from distance close to the hour mark but the hosts almost took the lead in the 66th minute when Dare Jean-Pierre broke clear on goal. Fortunately before he could get a shot at Cameron Robson's goal defender Rene Leacock made a brilliant last-ditch tackle to deny the Romford player.

Apart from that incident Blues were the better side and Mason Naylor finished a good move in the 82nd minute with a shot from the edge of the box that stopper George Martin saved. Then in the 88th minute Joe Ryan was unlucky with a near post header that was just wide following a Ben Smith free-kick.

It looked as though the points were going to be shared until Stortford raided down the left flank in the second minute of stoppage time. Jordan Barra sent a long pass up to Mason Naylor who outwitted a defender before crossing into the middle

where Jack Isherwood, going up for the ball, was flattened from behind by defender Giani Ashley. Referee Gary Caley immediately pointed to the spot and BEN SMITH calmly slotted the penalty low into the corner of the net (1-2).

Full time: 1-2

BISHOP'S STORTFORD: Cameron Robson; Jordan Barra; Rene Leacock; Joe Ryan; Bradley Jarvis; Kieran Amos; Mason Naylor; Ben James; Jack Isherwood; Alex Warman (sub – Joe Milbourne 83 mins); Ben Smith.

Unused substitutes: Harry Andrews and Declan Button