

Wed 7th May 2014

BSFC Academy FC Match Report

Braintree Town FC

Bishop's Stortford FC



Braintree Town 1 - 1 Bishop 's Stortford : HT 0 - 0

Football Conference Youth Alliance

The Blues' Academy side completed their season with a gritty performance that saw them collect a deserved point at Braintree. A draw was probably a fair result in a match that was played on the main pitch at the Amlin Stadium. Stortford had taken the lead just before the hour but the hosts levelled soon afterwards and had pressed hard in the latter stages, which included ten minutes of stoppage time, as the Blues struggled with injuries in the second half.

It was the Iron who had most of the play in the early part of the match but in the 9th minute a defensive error on the right side of their defence allowed Ben James to gain possession and advance on goal. He cut in and his angled shot struck the top of the bar and from a corner shortly afterwards James was narrowly over the bar from 15 yards.

Skipper Joe Ryan, who had another outstanding match in defence, then went closer in the 17th minute when his 35 yard free-kick cannoned off the bar. Joe Milbourne collected the rebound but shot over the target.

Leading up to the break Braintree's Harry Seal headed over the top whilst Ben Smith, for Stortford, finished a promising move with an effort that home keeper Charlie Turner held high.

Half time: 0-0

Stortford physio Colin Taylor had his busiest match of the campaign as Blues players went down constantly particularly after the interval. They lost striker Jack Isherwood with an ankle injury early on after the restart and was replaced by Alex Warman.

Then Cameron Robson injured his elbow when diving to save a shot from Harry Seal but, although hampered, the Stortford stopper continued between the sticks.

The Blues looked dangerous when going forward and in the 58th minute another long distance free-kick from Joe Ryan was deflected and pushed away for a corner by Turner. Stortford took the lead only a minute later with an excellent goal. Ben James crossed from the right and MASON NAYLOR, running into the box, met the ball and fired a first time rising shot high into the net inside the near post (0-1).

Braintree found the net a minute or so later but it was disallowed for offside. However, they did equalise in the 66th minute. Connor Webb crossed low from the right and DAN WHITTLE swept the ball home from close range (1-1).

The hosts then attacked strongly and following a corner Cuney Hassan headed away near his own goal line. In a rare raid by

Tim Moylette's side Mason Naylor supplied a pass for Alex Warman on the edge of the box and the substitute's effort was saved by Turner diving to his left.

In the ten minutes of added time Blues were down to ten men most of that time as Hassan missed some of the closing minutes due to cramp. Joe Ryan headed a goal bound header off the line in the 2nd minute of stoppage time and very late on Braintree's Connor Webb lobbed a shot over the onrushing Cameron Robson but fortunately the ball landed on the roof of the net.

Full time: 1-1

BISHOP'S STORTFORD: Cameron Robson; Cuney Hassan; Rene Leacock; Joe Ryan; Bradley Jarvis; Tresor Ndele; Mason Naylor; Joe Milbourne (sub – Toby Dellow 86 mins); Jack Isherwood (sub – Alex Warman 55 mins); Ben James; Ben Smith.
Unused substitutes: None