

## **BISHOP'S STORTFORD 3, LOWESTOFT TOWN 3**

### **(FOOTBALL CONFERENCE YOUTH ALLIANCE – DIVISION 'C')**

The Blues' Academy team rounded off their campaign by drawing with the Trawlerboys. In an entertaining if scrappy match Stortford went behind after taking an early two goal lead but managed to level the match in the closing minutes.

Roberto Alves shot over the bar early on for the visitors but JACK THOMAS put Stortford ahead in the ninth minute when turning Callum O'Brien's right wing corner past keeper Connor Nicole's dive with the aid of a slight deflection (1-0).

The lead was doubled three minutes later when Aaron Thomas slipped the ball down the middle for GEORGE BARTLAM to shoot low past Nicole (2-0).

The Lowestoft stopper was in action soon afterwards when saving from Aaron Thomas whilst O'Brien also went close. However, in the 25<sup>th</sup> minute, the visitors pulled a goal back as IMMANUEL CASSAMA beat Callum Lynskey after collecting a through pass from Callum Bishop (2-1).

A minute from the break Jordan Handscomb had a chance to restore a two goal cushion but after cutting in towards goal from the right his goal-bound shot hit Nicole's legs.

Half time: 2-1

The Suffolk side equalised nine minutes after the break when CASSAMA bundled the ball into the net following an Alves corner (2-2). Both sides then created chances with Jack Thomas unlucky in the 72<sup>nd</sup> minute when his far post header from an O'Brien corner produced a fine save from Nicole.

Two minutes later saw the Blues behind for the first time. Ben Fowkes completed a run on the left with a pass inside to JAMES DELLER who netted from ten yards at the second attempt after Lynskey had saved his first effort (2-3).

With the match reaching the closing stages Lynskey saved well from Fowkes and Ross Gill cleared another shot off the line. However, Stortford broke upfield in the 87<sup>th</sup> minute and two of the substitutes combined to produce the third goal with LEWIS McDONALD netting from close range after receiving a pass from Joe Senior (3-3).

McDonald could have won the match for his side having a shot saved by Nicole and then shooting wide from a Danny Palmer pass.

In an eventful final few minutes the match finished disappointingly for Stortford as Jack Thomas was sent off in added time after being shown two yellow cards in quick succession.

Bishop's Stortford: Callum Lynskey; Danny Palmer; Alex Rogers; Jack Thomas; Ross Gill; Ted Dean; Callum O'Brien (Sam Philpot 88); Aaron Thomas; Jordan Handscomb (Lewis McDonald 60); George Bartlam (Samuel Brown 77); Louis Monk (Joe Senior 80).

Unused substitute: Jordan King