

BARKING 2 BISHOP'S STORTFORD 1

(NATIONAL LEAGUE UNDER 19 ALLIANCE – DIVISION C)

Tim Moylette's Academy side slipped to their third successive defeat having been ahead at the interval. Unfortunately injuries during the match upset Stortford's rhythm losing central defender Jamie Riley to a cut above the eye requiring six stitches before the interval and then skipper Joe Vieites- Stephenson in the second half who came off with back and breathing problems.

Playing against the league leaders at Mayesbrook Park and watched by first team boss Kevin Watson Stortford had begun well and they went one up in the ninth minute. A low pass into the box by Matthew Kemp was cut out by Barking central defender Harry Rixon who was then unable to control the ball that ran loose for Sami Shulton to fire past statuesque keeper Tom Hughes.

The Barking defence looked suspect whenever Stortford attacked but the game changed when Riley had to leave the pitch with his injury and the hosts almost equalised in the 35th minute as Jorge Dealmedia's effort was cleared off the goal-line by Kieran Bonney.

Just before the break Matthew Kemp ran clear from the right but Hughes came off his line to block the ball away.

After the interval the hosts had the majority of the possession as Stortford lacked shape and gave the ball away too easily. Blues keeper Toluwani Osiyemi did well to cut out a cross shortly after the hour mark but the East Londoners equalised in the 66th minute. A poor clearance went to Josh O'Shea who set up Jorge Dealmedia to net.

A few minutes later Jacob Bennett hit a 25 yard effort that forced a diving save from Hughes but Barking's winner arrived in the 74th minute as Bonney was unlucky to be ruled to have fouled Djeny Kabongo in the box and O'Shea scored from the penalty spot

The hosts were dominant until the end but Stortford could have equalised in the final minute when defensive errors allowed Kemp to make tracks for goal but his acute angled shot at virtually an open goal was wide of the target.

BISHOP'S STORTFORD: Toluwani Osiyemi; Kieran Bonney; Chad Cruse; Joe Vieites-Stephenson (Jack Booker 64); Frankie Oatham; Jamie Riley (Pedro Gomes-Dinis 33); Charlie Riley; Daniel Pinkney; Matthew Kemp; Sami Shulton; Jacob Bennett.

Unused substitute: Daniel Hampton