

Sunday, 8 May 2011
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ESSDA Soccer Sevens *Maradona* Division

Currie Use Their Power to Overcome AC

Currie Star 7 AC Oxgangs 3

Half-Time 4-2

Scorers

Zac, Aaron H., James

ACO Man of the Match

Today's MOTM was another tough one with a number of good performances. As always coaches pick who they believe was the stand out player of the week and this week's MOTM award goes to Aaron H. for his brilliant work in the middle, making some crucial tackles and scoring a brilliant solo effort. Well Done.

Another meeting between these teams, and ACO had been on the losing side on both the previous occasions, so would it be third time lucky?

ACO started very positively, passing the ball around well. Aaron H sent a ball forward to Max, who spotted Zac making a run past the defence and sent a great ball to him. The ball skidded away on the wet surface and took Zac wide of the goal, but he managed to find the net with a shot from a narrow angle to give ACO an early lead. ACO continued to win the ball, with Leo doing especially well to tackle a player much taller than him, and Max was closing down the Currie defenders and not letting them get forward.

Currie did start to get some players into the ACO box, and Aaron needed to make a low save with his legs. Currie then tried a couple of long shots. Aaron collected the first comfortably into his chest, but the second one zipped off the wet surface into the corner of the goal for the equaliser. Straight from the kick-off, Currie advanced down the wing and scored again with a shot that probably was meant to be a cross, but it looped over Aaron and sneaked in under the bar.

ACO needed to respond, and Leo intercepted a pass and sent the ball up to Zac. He sent an excellent cross into the box, but no ACO players could get on the end of it. Max also had a strong run down the left to force a corner, but this came to nothing. Leo then emerged from a crowd of four Currie players with the ball, but the attack broke down and Currie tried another long shot, forcing Aaron to make a difficult save with his legs after a deflection. From the corner the ball fell in front of the goal, and Aaron was brave to smother it among a number of Currie feet. Currie were putting ACO under a lot of pressure, and Liam and Cillian had to be alert to clear the ball into touch. However, another long shot came in and bounced awkwardly past Aaron to make it 3-1 to Currie.

ACO responded almost immediately, with Aaron H picking the ball up well within his own half and powering up the pitch, holding off Currie players all the way, before finishing well past the Currie keeper. ACO thought they were back in it, but again Currie fired in a long shot, this one taking a deflection and leaving Aaron no chance, and it was now 4-2. As half time approached, Currie had another attack, but Cillian stopped the forward with a crunching tackle at the edge of the box. Aaron H then sent a ball up to James who fired in a powerful shot that everyone thought was in, only to see it rebound off the post.

Half-time 4-2

The second half started with ACO on the attack again. Kieran sent a long throw down the line to James who cut the ball inside to Christopher, but his shot was closed down. Then Brodie picked the ball up from Aaron and raced along the wing before finding James. He managed to find Leo on the byline, and his cross rolled across an empty Currie goal a few feet too far in front of Kieran. He then chased the ball down and sent in a good high cross from the corner to Leo, but he was robbed in the box as he was turning to shoot.

At the other end Aaron needed to make a great save from a powerful shot outside the box, and then almost immediately had to make an amazing save from a point-blank shot destined for the top corner.

ACO now had a long period of sustained pressure. Kieran sent a long ball through the middle for Leo but his shot was saved, then Leo returned the favour, setting up Kieran but his shot went wide. James also fired in a shot but the keeper gathered it well. Max then chipped the ball in towards goal but it hit the crossbar. Leo ran through one-on-one with the keeper, forcing a good save. Christopher then had a similar chance, and the keeper had to be alert to save again. Eventually the pressure paid off when James fired in another long shot that sneaked into the bottom corner. 4-3

Unfortunately Currie restored their lead immediately once again. Aaron half-stopped one shot, knocking the ball down in front of Kieran who was racing back to cover. He did well not to carry the ball over the line, but his clearance didn't go far and the Currie player fired the ball back into the goal.

James tried to reply immediately with a shot that was blocked, and Christopher was seeing a lot of the ball in midfield but couldn't get a clear opening to send the ball forward. Aaron then tried to throw the ball from the edge of the box to Christopher on the halfway line, but a Currie player intercepted the ball and fired it back over Aaron's head. Fortunately it just went wide.

Currie now had most of the ball, and Brodie needed to make a crucial sliding tackle, and then was straight up again to bring the ball out of defence. However, Currie tried another long shot and again it sneaked in. Straight from the kick off Currie raced forward and sent in another long shot that Aaron didn't seem to be ready for and it sailed past him. The referee then bought the game to a close.

Full-Time 7 - 3

Coaches Message:

Today we started of the game brilliantly, getting off to a great start by scoring early, but that seemed to just lift Currie and left us daydreaming for the next 20 minutes. When speaking to the kids after the full-time whistle coaches said that the first 5 minutes we need to carry that for another 20 minutes in that half then another 25 in the second-half. We believe we could match teams at Currie's level, but we need to keep our performances up.

Well Done though, and see everyone on Thursday.

Please note our Match Reports are written from an AC Oxfords perspective and are primarily intended for the benefit of our players, officials and supporters. Understandably, our match reporters will focus on our own performance but this does not imply that the contribution of the opposing team has been deliberately undervalued.

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