

Hull 3 - Leeds 1 15<sup>th</sup> January 2011

A bad day at the office was coach Mr Rossiter's post match verdict on a game that saw Leeds 'A's 100% record blown away in the Humberside wind. On chances created Leeds had the better of the opening exchanges with Nathan Hawkhead shooting just over while Seacroft's Joe Pearson twice brought saves from the Hull keeper, one from a free kick the second a shot from just outside the box. Leeds even took the lead when Dom Healy and Nathan Hawkhead combined to find Rhys Walker who finished smartly inside the area. Hull had yet to test Leeds keeper Fletcher Paley, then why were the Leeds parents looking so worried, because statistics in football don't always tell the full story, much of Leeds play had lacked fluency, chances had been created (the goal apart) with hit and hope passing rather than brilliant creative play. Hull didn't give us much time on the ball and there was an element of panic and lack of composure from the Leeds players. Hull also played to their strengths, a team with a strong defence a good work ethic and a fast forward line that liked the ball delivered early, full credit to the Leeds back four of Smyth, Dyas, Kayij and Haley for protecting Fletcher's goal early on and limiting Hulls chances with some gritty defending. The tide couldn't be stopped though and by halftime Hull were in front 2 – 1 with two goals clinically executed by the impressive Hull centre forward, it could have been worse for Leeds just before half time had it not been for the brilliance of Fletcher Paley who dived to his right to prevent goal number 3, half time 2-1 Hull.

The second half started brightly for Leeds with sub Louis Coates who brought some zip to the left hand side of midfield testing the keeper with a low drive, Leeds looked in the mood to make up for the first half performance but then disaster an unfortunate slip by a Leeds defender with no real danger allowed the Hull forward to race away for a deserved hat trick. The goal seemed to demoralise Leeds and the poor passing of the first half returned, you can't fault the boys' for the commitment they showed but sometimes in football you have days when nothing goes right because apart from a Nathan Hawkhead shot after good play down the left by Joe Gibson and Louis Coates Leeds rarely threatened the Hull goal. To be fair Hull didn't threaten either but at 3-1 there was no need for them to chase the match and the ease with which they took the sting out of the game shows what a good team they are final score 3 – 1 Hull.

A poor Leeds performance and a shock to the system, Hull are good but we probably saw the best of them today where as Leeds underperformed. We can play much better, our passing was scarcely recognisable from previous weeks and the result will be different in the return game at Leeds.