

Leeds lose 2-1 in season opening thriller!

'Leeds City Boys u/11s were unlucky to lose their opening match of the 11/12 season thwarted by a hard working and spirited Chester-Le-Street side. Leeds were kept scoreless during an early period of dominance mainly due to great last ditch defending and a fantastic save from Chester goalkeeper, Finlay. Early shots from the marauding full back Hartley and striker Casey went narrowly wide and probing runs from the midfield of Dolby and Singh-Morgan failed to produce any end result.

Chester-Le-Street came more into the game as the first half progressed with their counter attacking style causing a few nervous moments at the back for Leeds. These were confidently dealt with by goalkeeper Dellar and his defence before Clifford put Chester-Le-Street ahead just before the break with a close range shot.

After the break Leeds brought on Sheridan-Hawley, Bailey and Clegg before peppering the Chester-Le-Street goal with a series of fantastic long range shots from Brennan who hit the bar with a fierce 25 yard free kick. It seemed only a matter of time before the equaliser but Chester-Le-Street broke away and scored a second goal from striker Fawcett giving replacement keeper Jones no chance.

This only encouraged Leeds to re-double their efforts with an eye catching performance from Brennan and good support from fellow central defender Straker driving them on. They created numerous chances through the trickery of wide players Fletcher, Crosland and replacement Bailey. Unfortunately the hard running striker Lyons was unable to take full advantage narrowly missing the goal with a couple of good efforts.

Despite their fine play Leeds only stayed in the game thanks to Jones who pulled off a tremendous save at the feet of Fawcett the speedy striker for Chester-Le-Street late in the game. Finally, Leeds efforts were rewarded when Casey struck in the last minute with a fine shot into the top corner from the edge of the area. However, despite a frantic finale the equaliser would not come. Manager Rossiter was pleased with the performance and said he was confident that if this standard could be maintained that elusive first win would soon be achieved. '