

## Match Report

7<sup>th</sup> January 2012

Leeds Schools FA U11's (B) **0** East Cleveland Schools FA U11's **2**

### **A Game of Three Halves!**

A tight game in blustery conditions ended with defeat for Leeds City Boys after conceding two late goals to an impressive East Cleveland visiting side.

The game was split into three periods to allow for the many substitutions in this friendly game and the strong wind was the dominating factor in each period.

The first period saw Cleveland control most of the possession with the wind behind them and Leeds were pegged back in their own half for the majority of the time.

It looked ominous for Leeds but the defence of Aaron Clegg, Finlay Auty, Nathan Brady and Jacob Bues were resolute and restricted Cleveland to half chances only.

The five man midfield of Joe Fitzpatrick, Dylan Broadbent, Oscar Jackson, Liam Swift and Aaron Kane worked hard to close down Cleveland but struggled to keep the ball for too long and striker Josh Crosland cut a lonely figure up front.

The first period ended goal-less and Leeds had an opportunity to use the wind to their advantage in the second period and get into the game more.

Substitutes Max Ross and Harry Resendez came into the defence, Ben Harley and Callum Eddleston into midfield and Jacob Murray in goal and Leeds were quickly into their stride.

A short corner to Max Ross and a surge into the box and pull back saw Josh Crosland with the first real chance of the game. His left foot strike was well saved though by the Cleveland keeper at the second attempt.

Leeds were passing the ball well and had the better of the chances in the second period but the whistle blew without either team troubling the score sheet.

The third 'half' saw Cleveland with the wind at their back again and once more in control of most of the possession. Leeds were hanging on and defending deep but their luck ran out with 10 minutes to go as Cleveland took advantage of a lapse in concentration in the tired Leeds defence and broke easily through the middle before placing a fine finish high into the Leeds net.

The second and killer goal came soon after, this time some good link play on the left saw the Cleveland striker one-on-one with Luke Dellar and coolly rounding the Leeds keeper and firing a strong shot into the back of the net from a tight angle. A fine move and finish and Cleveland were finishing the game much the stronger team.

A superb double save from Luke Dellar with two minutes to go kept the score-line respectable but it wasn't to be Leeds' day and the boys need to up their game massively in next week's crunch West Yorkshire cup tie away at East Riding if they want to go further in the knockout competition.