

3rd December 2011

Leeds Schools FA 'B' U11 **0** (0) Nottingham Schools FA U11 **1** (**1**)

Leeds City Boys 'winded' by Nottingham

Leeds City Boys 'B' team's fine run of form came to a halt in gale force conditions at St Theresa's, Crossgates as they fell to a single first half goal from a determined Nottingham side.

The high winds and heavy pitch played a big part in the match as neither side was able to play the kind of football they would have liked and a scrappy game ensued.

Leeds started the game reasonable well and with the wind behind them for the first half had much of the possession without creating many clear chances. Ben Harley went close with a long range strike and Aaron Kane broke through well to see his shot smartly saved by the Nottingham goal keeper.

Nottingham, with plenty of pace up front always looked lively on the counter-attack and despite some resolute defending by the Leeds defence of Aaron Clegg, Nathan Brady, Finlay Auty and Max Ross and some solid goal-keeping by Luke Dellar, the visitors eventually took the lead with a break-away goal on 20 minutes.

Leeds kept the pressure on for the rest of the half with the wind on their backs but as the half time whistle blew there was strong feeling amongst the crowd that the home team may have missed their chance in this game and that they would have a difficult second half ahead of them.

Coach McAlinden rang the changes at half time and introduced Josh Crosland to support Aaron Kane up front in attempt to get back into the game. Liam Swift came into the midfield and the fresh duo combined early in the half to set up Leeds' closest effort of the game. A nice pass from Swift set up Crosland and his fine chip sailed over the stranded Nottingham keeper and was destined for the bottom corner until a strong wind gust seemed to pull it away from and past the far post. It was clearly not going to be Leeds' day...

The midfield of Ben Harley, Liam Swift, Callum Eddleston, Harry Resendez and Oscar Jackson continued to work hard throughout the match and contained Nottingham to a few half-chances in the second period only and second-half keeper Jacob Murray was not unduly troubled.

The game remained scrappy though and no more real chances were created for the home side as the game fizzled out to a disappointing end for Leeds.