

Match Report - Date 23/11/2013: Leeds Schools FA vs York – Green 'Un Cup

Final Score: Leeds 3– 3 York aet Leeds lost 4-3 on penalties.

Leeds suffered penalty heartache in the Green 'Un Cup after battling back from being 3-0 down after the first 20 minutes to force extra time.

Leeds started the game well and went straight at York with some early pressure and they had the first attack of the game. York then countered quickly down the left and the York striker burst into the box and went down after a clumsy tackle by a couple of Leeds defenders to win a penalty. The York striker stuck the ball firmly into the bottom corner to give Tom Nicholson-Watton no chance and made it 1-0. Leeds responded well to this setback and Haroon Bostan fed Jonny White who in turn passed the ball to Liam Dean who unluckily pulled his shot wide.

After 8 minutes York made it 2-0 with another quick break and some fast passing that caught the Leeds back line flat, although there was a suspicion of offside, but the referee said it was level and the goal stood.

York were definitely having the best of this period but Leeds battled to try and get a foothold in the game. Harry Barton was battling well in midfield and trying to stem the tide. York had pace down the left hand side and Joe Ingleson had his hands full but made some good tackles in to break up the play. York scored again to make it 3-0 after 17 mins. Leeds then had a let off as another York attack ended with a shot off the post.

Leeds started this second period well and straight away Tom Woodeson won the ball in midfield and had a shot that was saved. Woodeson and William Holmes were starting to win the midfield battles and Oliver Brown was getting some fantastic tackles in and making dangerous runs down the left.

Leeds were now creating some chances with Ellis Wilson Gales and Tom Spence combining well and Spence had a shot which was deflected over the bar. Jonny White and Holmes then linked up and Holmes had a shot over the bar Leeds then won a free kick which Brown took and he delivered a dangerous ball into the box, it just needed a touch to be a goal but despite several desperate lunges no one could get required the touch. Jack Backhouse was making his usual runs down the right causing problems for the York defence

This was a better third form Leeds they battled well to get back in the game, created chances and kept the York attack under control. Leeds then got the goal that their pressure had deserved when Woodeson won the ball in midfield and surged forward, the ball broke to Wilson Gales who poked the ball over the line to make in 3-1.

York were also starting to come back into the game and Leeds defence was playing well with Matthew Johnson and Brown making some important clearing headers. All three defenders Johnson, Brown and Backhouse were snapping their tackles in and making sure they won the ball and really restricting York to very few clear cut chances.

With 5 minutes to go the ball fell to Wilson Gales who made in 3 -2 with a great curling shot into the top corner. The midfield of Woodeson, Holmes and White were working very hard and Leeds were pressing forward now desperately trying to get the equalizer. They created chances Holmes and White both had chances but York were defending in numbers.

Dean who had been brought on for Spence and went on a mazy run into the box and was bought down for a penalty. Dean brushed himself down and with the last kick of the game slotted the ball coolly into the bottom corner to make in 3-3 and force extra time.

Extra Time (7.5 minutes each way)

Leeds started the first period of extra time fired up after the last minute equaliser and Woodesen and White put a great move together with White shooting wide.

Backhouse was solid on the right but also made some strong runs into some dangerous positions. Johnson made up great ground to clear the ball with a well timed tackle when York had a break away attack. Brown was solid in defence but dangerous when he went forward. Holmes, White and Woodeson worked tirelessly whilst Wilson Gales and Dean tried their best to convert pressure into a clear cut chance. Both teams battled hard and the attacking players from both teams tried to play good football but generally the defences of both teams were on top and there were few clear cut chances for either team.

Penalties

And so the game moved into penalties and tension was ramped up another notch.

Leeds ultimately lost 4-3 in a shoot out that went to sudden death. The score was 3-3 after the first five penalties and both teams had to take 8 penalties in order to find a winner. Tom pulled off some great saves to keep out 4 of the York penalties but York eventually squeaked through.

Ultimately Leeds created a lot of chances in normal time but couldn't convert their pressure into goals whilst York were very clinical in their finishing and that was probably the main difference between the sides in the end.