

Leeds v Spen Valley U-13s - WY League - 14/2/15

1st Half:

The game started in overcast damp conditions on a difficult surface. The first few minutes were midfield stalemate as both sides tried to take control. Spen Valley were awarded a number of free-kicks early on and from the last one the ball broke to an unmarked forward who slotted the ball home - 0 - 1. Leeds received a free-kick of their own at the other end and Owen Hindley's accurate delivery was forced in at the far post, but apparently all the Leeds players were offside??? Leeds were now starting to dominate the game and had a sustained spell of pressure with a couple of corners from good runs by Alistair Thompson and Charlie Webb, the last one almost producing an equaliser but Owen's shot was blocked.

Kian Linley then produced a quality run and cross that Lewis Branton narrowly failed to convert, followed by Owen having a shot saved by the keeper. In a sporadic Spen attack an underhit back-pass put Leeds in trouble but Leon was alert and cleared the danger. As Leeds pressed again Lewis was inches away from getting to a through-ball before Kian shot wide. Leeds kept attacking as time ran out to the interval.

Half-time: Leeds 0 - 1 Spen Valley

2nd Half:

Once again Leeds attacked from the start and had three attempts on goal from Matty Kyle, Kian and Matty Swift in quick succession without success. Lewis was then unlucky with an overhead attempt that cleared the bar. Although dominating the game Leeds were tending to overhit their through-balls making it easy for the Spen keeper to collect. Matty Kyle then had a shot fumbled by the keeper but he recovered before Lewis could take advantage. Jack Twyford, who had rarely been troubled at the back, ventured forward and beat a number of players before being thwarted by a last-ditch tackle as he was about to shoot.

It was one-way traffic and Leon, in the Leeds goal, had little to do apart from the odd back pass to collect. Once again Lewis almost reached a through-ball and collided with the keeper but carried on. Nothing seemed to fall for Leeds, with the poor surface playing its part although a good cross from Charlie was grabbed by the keeper. Leeds finally found the reward they deserved when Lewis headed the ball on and Harry Carney rounded the keeper and scored from wide out to equalise - 1 - 1. Leeds searched keenly for a winner and an Owen corner drifted across the face of goal with no-one to touch it home before he shot wide as time ran out.

Full-time: Leeds 1 - 1 Spen Valley

Again Leeds didn't get what their play deserved as often seems to happen at home. As Leeds are a good passing team the pitch is no help. On a good surface, as last week, if the strikers receive good service they will score but this is difficult to achieve at home. Some justice was done in the end as a defeat would have been a travesty on balance of play - some away games now and hopefully better surfaces - and results.