

Wakefield v Leeds U13s - League - 21/3/15

It was a dry, with a cold wind and a hard pitch for this game.

1st Half:

Wakefield, with the wind behind them were first to show when they received a free-kick in Leeds half but the ball drifted wide. They then picked on a defensive error by Leeds but the Wakefield forward shot well over the bar. Leeds were struggling to create anything against the strong breeze but they finally got themselves into the match with a couple of attacks but nothing came of them. Wakefield won the first corner of the game but it was headed clear and Joe Turpin weaved his way into the box only for the ball to run away from him at the last moment. Leeds pressed again and should have taken the lead but last-ditch tackles prevented both Lewis Branton and Jonah Evans from scoring.

Leeds then received a free-kick on the touchline which Owen Hindley delivered into the box where Joe's shot was saved before a good run and cross from Alistair Thompson gave Lewis a chance which went inches wide. Kian Linley who was standing in as keeper for the unavailable Leon had had little to do until a Leeds defender was robbed on the edge of the box and the Wakefield forward smashed the ball high over Kian's head to give Wakefield the lead - 0 - 1. Leeds replied immediately with Lewis going on a determined run that led to a corner without any reward. Another attack again saw Lewis win a corner from which Owen ran into the box and shot but a goal-kick was given. The Leeds defence had been relatively untroubled for a few minutes but Jack Twyford had to make a timely tackle to nullify an attack. Both Joe and Alistair out wide had performed well and made progress but half-time arrived with no reward.

Half-time: Wakefield 1 - 0 Leeds

2nd Half:

With the wind behind them Leeds went straight on the attack with Joe again causing problems but when his cross was cleared Wakefield broke away and it required a timely tackle by James Shaw to prevent any threat to Kian in goal. Tom Casey was having a good game breaking up any Wakefield attacks with James and Jack looking solid. Lewis then had his best chance of the game but his close-range effort was blocked by the keeper and as they drove forward again Luke Owen was caught offside. Leeds were now dominant and a through-ball from Owen almost got Lewis in again but the keeper cleared before Luke had his shot blocked. Leeds were trying hard but ball control was difficult with a very hard pitch and strong breeze although Luke put Matty Kyle away but he couldn't get his shot away.

As in the first-half, Alistair was a constant danger, and when he fed Lewis Leeds got their reward as he shot across the keeper into the far corner - 1 - 1. Kian, in goal, had only back passes and overhit efforts from Wakefield to deal with as Leeds continued to make all the running. It seemed only a matter of time before Leeds would score again but a blatant penalty was turned down to the surprise of everyone except the man in the middle. More pressure led to Matty forcing a corner before Joe had a shot saved and put the rebound wide. In a rare Wakefield attack, Alistair was doing good defensive work, and got back to rob an opposition forward. With time running short Owen had a shooting chance on the edge of the box but it was blocked for a corner which Lewis headed over. Justice was finally done when Owen fed Alistair whose cross resulted in Lewis having a point-blank header saved but he was quickest to react and prodded home the rebound for a deserved winner - 1 - 2.

Full-time: Wakefield 1 - 2 Leeds

Although facing a skilful, determined side, Leeds showed bravery and stamina in difficult conditions. To restrict the opposition to virtually no chances in the second-half, especially with a stand-in keeper, shows what can be achieved. More of the same on tour lads!