**WYL: York v Leeds A**

The final league game of the season was a tense and exciting affair, with the hyped-up home side needing a win to take the title from Hull. Despite York’s dressing-room shouting and noisy team huddle it was Leeds who started brighter with Harry Barton and Haroon Bostan creating an early chance that went wide. Midfield pressure soon forced another Leeds corner which was cleared, then good link up play from Tom Woodeson and Ellis Wilson-Gales resulted in another corner taken by Barton the resulting shot went past the post.

York’s first attack was a while coming, and was quickly closed down by a tackle from Will Holmes, and the initiative remained with Leeds as Barton and Bostan linked well again to force a fantastic save from Barton’s shot.

York’s dangerous number 6 started to have greater influence on the game, and burst through into the box but Woodeson cleared the ball around the post after a save from Tom Nicholson-Watton.

The ball did end up in the back of the Leeds net not long afterwards however, after a shot from the York number 6 was parried by Tom. Unfortunately the ball landed at the feet of the York number 12, who scored against the run of play to make it 1-0 to the home team.

Leeds did not let their heads drop and continued to press forward, with chances from Bostan and Holmes going wide and being blocked. Brown’s battle with the opposition number 6 was fascinating, with the quick-footed York player being closely marshalled by the equally quick Leeds number 6.

The constant Leeds pressure eventually resulted in a well-deserved equaliser. A free kick from Woodeson was not cleared by the York defence and Barton was there to score from close range. 1-1 at the end of the first third, with anxiety rising amongst the home support.

The second third saw Ingleson coming on to replace Bostan, and York attempted to get their number 6 more into the match by moving him in a different positions to create space in midfield. He was involved in the first York attack of the third, with a snap shot going just over the bar, and another break from a long goal kick was ended by a tackle from Brown. His running at the Leeds team was unsettling the defence, and Nicholson-Watton blocked and saved shots by him.

Leeds had a couple of spells of good pressure, and won a free kick when Wilson-Gales was winded by a strong challenge by the York number 18, but the chance was saved by York, who broke quickly with the number 6 getting past the Leeds keeper: Woodeson was there to clear off the line again, and the ball came out to Wilson-Gales who made a fantastic run which was halted (fairly this time) by 18.

Strong battling in midfield by Johnson and Ingleson created another opportunity for Barton who shot just wide, and the second third finished with a lovely passing move involving Barton, White, Wilson-Gales and Holmes. 1-1 and the tension was mounting at the side of the pitch.

Bostan replaced Johnson in the final third of the match, and Leeds started with great energy. A fantastic ball from White found Barton, and he passed to Bostan who scored to make it 2-1. The home side pressed forward and created a couple of corners, but Leeds just about managed to absorb the attacks and the play moved quickly from end to end, with chances being created by both sides. Nicholson-Watton saved well from the York number 18, and York blocked shots from Woodeson, Holmes and Wilson-Gales. With Brown staying close to the York number 6 his influence on the game was less apparent, and Leeds were working incredibly hard to close down any attacking York play.

A bad challenge by Bostan on the York 11 led to a free kick that was well-cleared by Leeds, who broke quickly with a strong run from Wilson-Gales, whose shot was saved, and at the other end a York attack saw shots cleared, saved and missed all in the space of a few seconds.

The last few minutes were frantic and somewhat chaotic but despite the home team’s pressure it was Leeds who created the last good chance of the match, with great work from Bostan creating an opportunity for Leeds that just missed. **The match finished 2-1 to Leeds who worked extremely hard for this result; the league title went to Hull and Leeds supporters were left pondering what might have been after two excellent performances against the top teams in the league.**