

Leeds v Barnsley Under 13s - Friendly - 17/1/15

Once again conditions were not favourable for quality football as a wet bumpy pitch and frequent snow showers greeted the teams. As this was a friendly it would consist of three 20 minute periods.

1st period:

Barnsley forced a corner almost straight from the kick-off and when it was delivered the Leeds defence allowed it to drift across the face of goal where it was touched in to put them behind 0 - 1. Shocked by this Lewis Branton has a good run out wide and his cross almost led to an own goal but the ball went narrowly wide. From the resulting corner Lewis headed wide. Leeds kept pressing and were awarded a free-kick about 10 yards outside the box. Owen Hindley struck it and it deceived the keeper for a deserved equaliser 1 - 1. Barnsley replied with good midfield work and Leon in Leeds' goal safely collected a goalbound shot. They were playing some good football and causing the Leeds defence some concern in difficult conditions.

1st period: Leeds 1 - 1 Barnsley

2nd period:

Midfield stalemate was prevalent for the first few minutes until Charlie Webb was put through but the Barnsley keeper saved at the second attempt. Good interplay between Owen and Lewis ended with a chance that Owen put narrowly wide. At the other end Jack Twyford made a good tackle to thwart the Barnsley attack before they almost scored with a shot that drifted across the face of goal but just missed the far post. Jack and Matty Kyle were being tested by the tall Barnsley attackers but stood up well under some pressure. Leon then dealt with two attempts from Barnsley showing safe handling. Leeds forced a corner with no result and a good Tom Casey block gave Barnsley a corner that Leeds cleared.

2nd period: Leeds 1 - 1 Barnsley

3rd period:

Lewis sent a good ball to Charlie but he overran it and the keeper saved. Charlie then supplied Luke Owen with a great chance in front of goal but the ball bobbed at the wrong time and the chance was lost. Lewis had another good run that ended with James Shaw having his shot saved. Leeds were trying hard to put moves together but the pitch was proving difficult to master and maybe sending the ball out wide would be more successful. Lewis did get wide but when his cross reached Alistair Thompson the pitch once again played its part causing a mis-kick. Barnsley were still trying hard for a winner although Leon only had one save to make as time ran low. Charlie did get the ball in the net but the referee blew for a foul. As the match drew to a close, a corner by Owen led to a desperate scramble in the Barnsley box but they could not force the ball home.

Full-time: Leeds 1 - 1 Barnsley

Difficult conditions and a strong Barnsley team prevented a win in this match. On this pitch the long ball may have been better than trying intricate passing but once again it was a match we should have won. Better finishing and a bit more luck will bring its rewards in the future - although it's Sheffield next!!