

Leeds v Bishop Auckland U-13s - ESFA Cup Round 1 - 11/10/14

1st Half

The game started in perfect conditions with Leeds knowing very little about the opposition. It was soon apparent that they were an accomplished team with it being rumoured the majority were academy players. Both teams had attacks early on but neither keeper was troubled. The first serious effort on goal came from Kian Linley who shot narrowly wide. Then a cross from Lewis Branton led to a 50-50 challenge between Kian and the Bishop Auckland keeper who was injured but recovered to continue. The first chance the away team had was a good one but their forward sliced wide from 12 yards. Most of the play was in midfield until Leeds had a period of pressure but two corners came to nothing. Leeds continued to press - Jack Twyford had a shot blocked, a last-ditch tackle after a Kian cross prevented Lewis Branton from getting a strike on goal but eventually pressure told and another superb cross from Kian made it an easy task for Lewis to head home - 1-0.

Bishop Auckland responded from the restart and a goalmouth scramble ended with a shot going wide. As Leeds tried to increase their lead a good through-ball from Owen Hindley gave Kian a chance but the keeper cleared the danger. As the game flowed from end to end Finlay Sanderson had to be alert to clear a threat in his penalty area and as Leeds went up the other end Lewis had a shot at the keeper well saved. Bishop Auckland were playing some good stuff and Matty Swift, Jack and Finlay all had to be on their toes as the opposition threatened.

Half-time: Leeds 1 - 0 Bishop Auckland

2nd Half

Leeds started strongly from the start and two free-kicks were awarded as they pressed. From the second one Owen drifted a lovely ball from near the touchline over the keeper and into the far corner of the net to double their lead - 2-0. Leeds kept attacking and Charlie Webb had a good run and cross that was cleared before Joe Turpin, who was returning after a lengthy injury break, had a long shot that the keeper clutched at the second attempt. Another shot from Jack brought the goalie into action again. Although Bishop Auckland were having plenty of possession they were not posing any real danger and Callum in the Leeds goal had not had a save to make yet. When they did attack Tom Casey was solid at full-back against the pacey forwards. Luke Owen then put Charlie through whose effort was parried by the goalie. Matty Swift had to block a dangerous ball into his penalty area and Jack and Finlay and the whole defence were coping well.

Callum finally did collect an effort with ease but next time he was not so lucky as a tackle by Finlay led to a penalty that was finished well into the top corner - 2-1. Leeds still seemed to have control and would have increased their lead but for a great save by the visiting keeper who turned a Kian effort onto the crossbar and for a corner. Unfortunately for the keeper the corner by Leeds was glanced into the net by Matty Kyle to increase the lead - 3-1. Leeds were looking comfortable and Alistair Thompson had a shot saved. With time running out a speculative shot/punt forward (not sure which) dipped into the net from way out to reduce Leeds' lead. There were no more threats in the remaining couple of minutes as Leeds deservedly won the game.

Full-time: Leeds 3 - 2 Bishop Auckland