

6TH SEPTEMBER 2014

Chester Le Street 1 LEEDS 1

So, today we embarked on the first match for the U11's LSFA.

A long journey north on a wet September morning saw Leeds take on a decent Chester Le Street team. Leeds opened very brightly and with Max Tarbard, Sam Longfellow and captain for the game Jack Wilman marauding down the right and putting in cross after cross, it seemed only a matter of time before Leeds took the lead. Aidan Rivers in the heart of defence was a colossus and ably supported by Max Hunter they provided a steely barrier in front of keeper Finlay Wade.

And, then, almost without any notice, Hanakin knocked in a great little goal after a floating ball from the goal scorer on the right wing landed at Speights feet – the first touch was 'reaction saved' by the keeper only to fall back to Cassidy's feet whose owner quickly instructed said feet to score subutteo style with apparent ease. 0-1 to Leeds.

Leeds continued to press forward and good foraging runs by Dylan Youmbi and Cassidy Hanakin unfortunately petered out. was lively down the left and the newly introduced Jack Teahan and Sam Halliwell were a commanding presence at the back. Corner after corner was taken by Leeds but with no end product, CLS started to have a little more of the play and a quick throw in down the left and a good cross to the back post saw the home side grab the equaliser off the head of the number 9.

Leeds felt a little hard done by and maintained the pressure, a lovely corner from Tarbard was met by Hunter with a deft header but it didn't have the pace to beat the home keeper. Wade in the Leeds goal had a fairly trouble free morning but still had to be sharp out of his goal to smother a few through ball. Speight was creating space and holding up play well and drove in two fine strikes, one smartly saved and the other going narrowly wide. The same player set up with a great pass inside but the CLS keeper saved well.

There were to be no more goals and Leeds travelled home in the knowledge that this was a game they should have won, but as a newly formed squad, the improvement was there for all to see and hopefully an exciting season ahead.

A very encouraging start to the new season.