

18th October 2014

Leeds City Boys v Ye Olde sheep's bladder kickers from the fair green lands o' the shire of Nottingham

Hear ye, hear ye my ladies and gentlefolk – come hither to the warmth of our fair flickering camp fire that doth surround our encampment - dost thou not wish to hear ye tale of two giants of the realm that hath fought with skill and faith, with a gentleman's honour above all? Come hither and hear the a story that stuff of legend begats...

'Twas mid morn when ye green tunics of ye olde turney knights from the Shire of Nottingham graced ye field of playe for the tourney of the pride of the shire of York. Howvere , t'must be tolde that ye chatte locale 'twas circumnavigated around ye notts 9 whom dist sport a flippin' big mohekan- well that's not what we expected... Ye turney massif began with ye olde ref (well, that bit's true, if nothing else!) blowing the whistle late (the horses had to be corralled and taken to the blacksmith for re-shoeing at the localdrive thru) and from the off Leeds pressure began – the first corner came to nothing although the intent was there in abundance – last year, the ser knights of the LCB were 'sloe' off the mark and suffered as a result but this year's brigade have already well and truly put that demon to rest – apart from Olli the train (in the station on this occasion) Brown who was down and injured in this first tackle – cue Dan the trainer with his magic sponge and a substitution. Note to self – buy Dan a pedometer if this game is anything to go by – on, off, on, off – you get the jist. Anyway, without our faithful last stand man, both sides set about each other with 'sturdy' tackling and 'not so premiership' injuries on both sides. Initially the game started in its usual swift passing and tackling with little if any time being given to the opposition on either side and both sides showed great skill and agility. However, before long Tom 'slider' Woodeson passed an inch perfect pass to Jarvis 'coming on strong' Jarvis who in turn slotted the ball perfectly up the middle to Duracell Wilson Gales who saw the opening and the harpoon in the distance, slotted through and the harpoon.... missed. Ok, 2 inches to the side of the RHS post, but since when does the Harpoon miss? Ooooo, murmurs amongst the home support – is this a tale of things to come? Before LCB had time to tee up again a very strong Notts attack broke via the N6 who loosed off a tremendous shot which Rooney would have been proud of, almost breaking the LCB cross bar in 2 – an amazing break and well worked. Notts then began wave after attacking wave and for the first time this season the silence amongst the home support was palpable – things were not going to plan despite our defensive trio of Pearson, Woodeson and Batty playing well - it looked for the first 10 minutes or so that LCB could well be on the wrong end of a bit of a pasting. Notts were playing plenty of long ball (very accurate) passing, switching sides and lengths ofplay and their vision was sublime. When LCB did collect the ball the Green Un's tackling seemed to be very..... very 'enthusiastic' and as such player after LCB player seemed to be getting a bit of attention from Dan's magic sponge. However soon the gold fillings in the LCB warriors mouths soon came on show as the grit and determination filtered in and soon they were off – Taylor 'whippet' Ragan was down the left more times than Christian had cigarettes, with a lovely cross eventually coming off the shoulder of Jack White and out for a throw in. The next LCB came in from the right and through the ensuing melee in the box Matty 'Junior' Webb just missed the right hand post. Cue 'advice' from Mr Wilson Gale senior and the young Duracell duly intercepted the Notts goal kick and ran at the keeper, slotting into the LHS corner under the keeper – 1-0. A bit flattering to Leeds truth be told but sometimes you need a little luck and a little man who never knows when to give up. Notts were certainly not down and out though and immediately sprang back with an attack via their very capable striking pair which narrowly missed the LCB RHS post and which JD collected well in the LCB goal. From the resulting kick out, the harpoon sported an 'I'm free' style side kick which was beautifully placed to Liam Pirouette Dean who passed an inch perfect pass to Wilson Gales who slotted under the keeper again for his brace – 2-0. Within 2 minutes of the kick off Slider Woodeson threw a massive throw-in to Matty Webb who passed onto Jarvis who simply belted the ball from distance over the keeper and into the top left hand corner. 2 things to say at this juncture – (1) a simply stunning goal and (2) he couldn't do it again if he had all week! 3-0 to LCB. After this Notts were becoming less of a threat, not through a lack of skill as they were matching LCB stride for stride and to be honest 3-0 was flattering LCB, but it really was a simple case of LCB were scoring their chances and Notts weren't. Soon

LCB were on the attack again as JD kicked out to Haroon who slipped round a defender, saw Liam Dean free on the left but decided he had confidence in himself to go it alone and as usual, dispatched the kick coolly under the keeper – 4-0. The whistle went and the Leeds supporters could only watch on as the Notts coaches spent almost the entire break calming down the Notts defender who was having a full on strop on the side lines - not good for settling the team down.

2) In the second sector young Mr Brown was back on the pitch as was young Mr Backhouse, who evidently needs play time after his recent recurring injury – confidence was not lacking though and Jack was quickly back to his best with solid tackling and his usual ‘cool as mustard’ demeanour. Before long the tasty tackles were flying in again and it was not long before the all seeing eye of Harrison Batty was carted off to hospital with a wrist injury (obviously NOT the all seeing eye today...). After 5 minutes of each side holding their own in the middle of the pitch without many threats on goal, and LCB attack broke and Liam Dean shot a sweet strong shot which the Notts keeper did well to parry – Haroon Bostan picked up the resulting free ball and slotted it back to Ellis who calmly dispatched his third goal – 5-0. Soon the LCB goalies were exchanged and within 2 minutes, without even having touched the ball, Tom NW in goal seemed to have taken to creating a new ‘war paint’ look such was his lack of involvement in the game. Whilst Notts were by no means quiet, their lack of the accurate final touch was evidently frustrating the visiting side and it was not long before both Bostan and Barker had further shots from distance, narrowly missing, followed by a great shot from the LHS by Jack ‘Nibbler’ White which narrowly missed the LHS upright. By the 15th minute it became all LCB one way traffic and eventually the next goal came from a JW cross from the left and a mad goal mouth scramble before Ellis WG slotted in his 4th to create a 6-0 scoreline. Again, rather unfair on a very strong Notts side who were certainly not rolling over.

3) By the third sector LCB were dealing with the Notts threats well and were attacking regularly – certainly not freely but they were often and dangerous. Within 5 minutes a strong shot from Dean was well saved by the keeper and the next move began within 2 minutes once again. Slider Woodeson slotted through the Notts midfield to ‘Coming on Strong’ Barker (remember the song?) who flicked over the top to Matty Webb who shot, only to be well saved by the keeper. Liam Dean was duly on hand for the rebound but again the Notts keeper saved well and received a round of applause from all including the ref. The ensuing Notts attack carved open the LHS of the Leeds defence and luckily the resulting shot was off wide of the RHS of the post – TNW finally earned his muddy shirt! The next LCB attack started with a lovely ‘over the top’ ball by Brown to Dean who managed to single out and injure the ref with his shot – cue the ‘pantomime villain’ heckling towards the ref for getting in the way...! After the next Notts attack TNW threw a marvelous ball out to Bostan who again passed the ball over the top to Mr Webb who slotted the ball into the bottom LHS corner – 7-0. Within seconds, Ragan had the ball and was off down the left like a scolded cat, switching the play to the RHS to Dean who controlled the ball and passed to Brown all in one who loosed off a cannonball and the keeper almost ended up in the net with the ball – 8-0. Cue the final whistle.

All in all a clinical job well done by LCB although an 8-0 score line was no justice to a well drilled and competent Notts side. LCB today needed no pep talk at the end – Notts just needed the LCB net to have been 2 foot to the right.