

LSFA U12's Frustrated by Resolute Barnsley

LSFA U12's 0-0 Barnsley U12's

Looking to continue their recent good form Leeds went into the game full of confidence. The tone was set early with Leeds dominating possession in the middle of the field with Ollie Clarke and Donald Junior Kamba pulling the strings.

Charlie Watson was lively down the Leeds left and he fizzed a couple of dangerous balls into the box that were well dealt with by the Barnsley defence.

Barnsley were strong in the tackle and remained dangerous on the counter attack keeping Cameron Moyles and skipper Barney Hirst on their toes, but Liam Wilson was enjoying one of his quieter afternoons in the Leeds goal.

The Leeds pressure continued with Ben Ratcliffe whipping in a series of dangerous corners from the right and Leeds really should have taken the lead with Ralph Nkomba, Rauri Cunningham and Clarke all narrowly failing to make good contacts.

Gavin Maleka came off the bench and provided an instant threat down the right, but Barnsley's defence continued to snuff out attack after attack.

Leeds thought they would finally get the breakthrough their play had deserved when Ratcliffe received the ball to feet in the box following a great pass from Reece Crampton. Ratcliffe dummied and then turned to get his shot in before being caught by a despairing lunge by the Barnsley centre half.

A clear penalty, and with Ratcliffe hobbling from the foul Clarke stepped up to take. As the crowd held their breath Clarke ran up confidently, but agonisingly saw his low effort slide the wrong side of the keeper's right hand post.

Leeds continued to press, but the frustration led to them losing a bit of shape with Barnsley looking increasingly dangerous as the game entered the final 10 minutes.

With 5 minutes remaining Barnsley broke through the midfield, evading an attempted tackle from Jack Crosskey before a through ball reached the number 9. As Clarke and Crampton battled for the ball the striker went to ground and the referee with loud appeals from the Barnsley parents ringing in his ears pointed to the spot.

Leo Eldson, on from the bench in the Leeds goal did his best to look imposing and was rewarded as he dived to his right and brilliantly saved the Barnsley penalty.

There was still time for late efforts from Junior Kamba and Maleka, but Barnsley held on for the point which they celebrated like a victory at full time.