

## Match Report

Sheffield v Leeds A 8/12/18

At kick off, the sun was out, but it was very windy and bitterly cold.

Although, the game was played on a fantastic 4G pitch, conducive to passing football.

The early exchanges were fairly even, with both teams trying to combat the wind and each keeper getting a touch of the ball.

Sheffield had the 1st goal threat, when Josh Prior parried a shot, and it took a great last ditch block by Rudy Clarke to stop what looked a certain goal.

They got their reward soon after when a free kick was whipped in from the left. From the initial save, the ball fell kindly for a close range tap-in. 1-0 to Sheffield at the break.

The 2nd period was tight for 10 minutes before Leeds found a way back into the game. Josh Akiti was fouled in a goalmouth scramble. Jaydan Clarke-Thompson dispatched the penalty to the keepers right, 1-1.

Just before the 2nd break, Jaydan made a great counter-attacking run down the left. Cutting in for a right-footed shot, the save bounced out to Max Beckett whose instinctive shot hit the post after the slightest of touches from the keeper. 1-1 after an end-to-end 2nd period.

Leeds started the last period as the more positive team. An early free kick found Josh Akiti unmarked in the middle, but he couldn't force home the volley.

Shortly after Leeds took the lead. A penalty for a foul on Fergus Conway. Jaydan Clarke-Thompson drove it home with aplomb, to the left of the goal. 2-1 to Leeds.

Leeds kept pushing forward and the Sheffield keeper saved twice at the feet of Josh Akiti in as many minutes.

Sheffield then looked to hit back, with a dangerous free kick, which needed great reflexes to be tipped over the bar by Josh Prior.

However, there was to be a late twist. With the final whistle looming, Leeds had several chances to clear the ball from their area. The ball ended up being smuggled out to a free player on the Leeds left. Who hit a solid 1st time shot, giving the keeper no chance. And that was the last kick of the game!

Although the draw was probably a fair result, the very late goal made it feel more like a defeat.