

EAST RIDING U11 3 LEEDS SFA U11 3 13TH SEPTEMBER 2025

Beautiful late summer sunshine greeted Leeds Schools FA U11s' opening game of the season in East Riding and the visitors made the perfect start. After just two minutes the ball fell to Oliver Gilmore just outside the box; he picked his spot, firing it into the bottom corner.

And the momentum stayed with the away side, Zach Panther and Oliver Gilmore winning the midfield battles and Kairo Harvey-Wyatt always threatening despite some strong defending (and a bit of shirt pulling) while Jack Brummitt worked tirelessly up front.

East Riding came back into the game, only to be denied by Callum Henderson before, a minute later, putting in a lovely shot from the right-hand side of the box which Josh Bradford did brilliantly to tip round the post.

Leeds then found some space down the left and nearly doubled the lead when Patrick Townsend played a through ball to Jack Brummitt who agonisingly hit the far post.

Back came East Riding and they were nearly on level terms but, again, Josh Bradford saved well, this time with his feet, and Mason Betts was on hand to clear the danger.

Elsewhere in defence Aidan Grafton was excellent, sweeping up everything that came his way and then skilfully playing it out from the back but the hosts did get back on level terms when they rifled a brilliant free-kick into the top corner.

The Leeds' heads didn't drop though and, soon after, they put together the move of the game. Aidan Grafton brought the ball out of defence before sending Callum Henderson away who rolled a beautiful ball around the defender and Astala Leadeatt ran onto it and coolly slotted home before the half-time interval – advantage Leeds.

The towering East Riding centre-back would repeatedly come to the rescue of his team as Leeds began to get on top. Harry Watson-Frain and Patrick Townsend combined well to set up Astala Leadeatt who used his pace to lose his defender and the striker nearly added a third.

But Leeds would extend their advantage when Zach Panther's relentless pressing brought in Joe Linley who, without any hesitation fired a bullet of shot, forcing a decent save from the keeper. And, from the resulting corner, a looping ball from Astala Leadeatt found Patrick Townsend at full stretch who hooked his left foot around it and the ball flew into the top right corner.

Eddison Brown, now in the Leeds goal, was kept busy, comfortably saving a couple of decent long-range efforts, and the keeper nearly turned provider with a long goal-kick which almost found Jack. In defence Keyaan Kaoukaou soaked up the attacking pressure, calmly looking to play the ball out of defence whenever he could.

East Riding reduced the deficit with a well-taken goal and, though Mason Betts almost made it 4-2 with a free-kick, the home team got back on level terms with a well-worked move down the right before finding their striker who finished it first time, goal.

Leeds pushed for a late and possibly deserved winner. Joe Linley winning the midfield battles. And then, a brilliant ball from Astala Leadeatt found Kairo Harvey-Wyatt, who forced a decent save, as both sides looked to steal victory. For the visitors Keyaan Kaoukaou was now supreme in defence while Harry Watson-Frain came to their rescue with a bruising tackle and, at the opposite end, Kairo Harvey-Wyatt and Astala Leadeatt were always a threat.

But it wasn't to be, a brilliantly-contested match, superbly officiated by the referee, ended with the spoils shared.