

Comberton Crusaders FC



Match Report U11 Boys



Comberton 6 Ely Crusaders 1

24-9-2011

Comberton Crusaders U11 Boys entertained Ely Crusaders at Barton Rec on Saturday on a beautiful sunny day that drew crowds from far and wide.

Despite injuries to two players Comberton have made a good start to the season but Ely were sure to provide a stiff test. Before the game a minute silence was observed to remember a Spartak player who tragically died in a car accident earlier in the week.

The game kicked off and both teams were full of energy and running. The home team applied the early pressure with Josh going close with a shot inside the box. The resulting goal kick fell short and went straight to Ciaran twenty yards out. He controlled it, took it away from the defender and let fly with a great shot that sailed past the keeper into the top corner to put Comberton ahead on eight minutes.

Ely came back strongly after the restart and forced a corner. The set piece resulted in a shot that went narrowly wide but it was a let off for Comberton who looked a bit loose defensively. It seemed to spring the defence into action and James started to get more possession at sweeper and push forward into Ely's half. Felix, Owen and Chris came on to shake things up and the impact was immediate. Chris took a corner on the right side that Owen pulled out of the air with his back to goal. He turned smartly and drove the ball through a wall of players into the net to make it 2-0. Joe Cary had a quiet time in goal and kept a clean sheet to the break.

In the second half the game really opened up as Ely pushed to get back in the game. They made some good runs and had opportunities to score but their final shot let them down on more than one occasion. Comberton rode their luck and Ciaran made some good saves to keep them ahead.

Then Aaron scored with a fine individual goal from well outside the box to make it 3-0 and Comberton started to play with some fluency. Chris was controlling the space between centre forward and midfield and made some wonderful passes. In one attack he turned and laid the ball into the path of the oncoming Felix whose electric pace took him through the defence where he shot high into the net for number four.

It looked easy – too easy and with players relaxing, spaces opened up for Ely. They broke from midfield in numbers after a throw-in deep in their own half and released their centre forward with only Ciaran to beat. Ciaran managed to get a hand to the shot but the power took it over the line and made the score 4-1.

With ten minutes to go the game was still not safe and Comberton surged into the box. Owen took a heavy challenge on the edge of the box but retained the ball on the ground. He swivelled round and hooked the ball across the box to Joe McNally who forced it home for number five.

In the final moments Josh whipped in a cross at head height and Owen met it perfectly. The keeper was well placed and parried it away but only as far as Tom who placed it neatly into the back of the net to complete an impressive win.



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Overall it was a very entertaining match with lot of end to end football. Ely produced some great passing and movement but just lacked a bit of confidence in front of goal. This will of course improve as the season goes on and they will certainly be a different proposition once the goals start to flow. Comberton played some lovely football and with goals coming from six different players it shows the threat they carry to any team they play.

Squad: Ciaran Coyle, George Taylor, Joe Cary, Matthew Coyle, Josh Price, Owen Coyle, Tom Dawes, Aaron Biggs, Felix Serby, James Mikelson, Chris McFarlane, Joe McNally

Player of the week: James Mikelson

