



MATCH REPORT UNDER 15'S

Round 6:	Surrey Park vs Preston
Date:	16 May 2010
Scores:	Surrey Park 9-12-66 defeated Preston 7-8-50

Fog greeted the boys for their Round 6 clash with the Preston Bullants with an earlier than usual game beginning at 11am. The team welcomed back TD and Liam from injury but we lost Oliver to concussion from last week's game. The address before the game was to make sure that the run and carry was evident from the opening bounce to allow our forwards better opportunities to run into clear space, to make sure the forward line wasn't too congested and to take pride in each possession to reduce the turnovers that have keeping our opponents in the game.

The first quarter began with the boys snagging the first goal of the game to Jimmy in the opening few minutes. The boys were linking up well through the midfield allowing both Zoom and Skipper to lead with confidence. The defence again were holding strong with all boys winning their position. Rowsa showed great confidence on a couple of occasions with a great switch of play to Rich deep in defence to open up the game and his attack on the footy that saw to opponents hit the deck quite hard pleasing to watch. Preston got one back through a turnover but just before the end of the quarter, a great passage of play along the wing saw Skipper do the team thing and centre a kick from the pocket to the 'HOT SPOT', where George took a strong one handed grab, where he then went back and kicked our second. Our wingers in Jordan and Matt were linking up very well through the midfield while Blake was looking dangerous when the ball was in his area.

The second quarter continued in the same fashion as the first with each team working hard both ways with the footy. Dylan, Toddy C and Nick were again solid in defence attacking the footy confidently. Our midfield was teaming well around the ground but unfortunately we just couldn't get shots on goal. The opposition were creating a wall across their half back line that the boys just couldn't break through. Lack of talk around the contest was resulting in our boys perceiving that there was pressure on them, when it wasn't and therefore quick kicks were going straight to the opposition. Just before the end of the quarter, two quick goals to Zoom and Skipper gave the boys some breathing space going into the second half. Richard and TD finished off the quarter well while Campbell, who had just come on after a rest, showed why second efforts are important as he contested a mark, followed up the crumb and hit Zoom with a spearing pass, which resulted in a goal. Robbo got some handy touches on his wing, providing a target out of the back half.

The address at half time was to work hard for the first 10 minutes of the third quarter to open up the game and not make it a slog for the rest of the day. The boys responded with the ball spending the majority of the quarter in our forward half but unfortunately for no return. Again, the ball was kicked forward to contests rather than to our forward's advantage. Tommy R and TD were doing a great job stopping number 53 for Preston who was dominant in the first half. Kevin was given a different role today playing in the back half and performed quite well for someone in his third game of competitive football. Copey and Rupert were providing a contest in the air in our forward half but with no crumbs, it made it hard to get the shots on goal. An opportunistic goal to Skipper just before the end of the third was a reward for the hard work he was doing around the ground.

The address at three quarter time was to get more crumbs to contests in the forward half and to use the ball more effectively when going forward. Both teams worked hard in the last quarter. Again the ball spent the majority of the quarter in our forward 50 but missed opportunities from set shots kept the opposition in it. With 10 minutes to go, Preston started to get a run on with many of our boys looking spent from all the run they had given all day. Two goals to them with 5 minutes to go and many spectators would have thought that it might have been too much for the boys to peg back. But instead, the boys turned it on again, inspired by the efforts of Richard across half back who was taking the game on and pumping it back into our forward line. Liam was getting in and under and was rewarded with two free kicks for his efforts. Two more goals to Skipper and the sealer from Rupert showed the character of the boys and their willingness not to drop their heads when they were behind on the scoreboard.

Another win for the boys and a great opportunity to see where we're at with next week's match against the ladder leading Park Orchards. If the boys can turn it on for four quarters next week, I'm sure they will give Park Orchards a run for their money.

Goal kickers for the day were Skipper x3, Jimmy, George, Zoom, Richard and Rupert.

Although I don't like to single players out, special mentions must go to Richard (for his 4 quarter effort) and Skipper (who inspired the boys with his efforts in the forward half and his attack on the footy when the game was in the balance.)

Final scores were Surrey Park 9-12-66 to Preston Bullants 7-8-50.

Coach