

11th Feb 2023

Barnsley Schools FA 1 v Leeds Schools FA U11 B 3

The Bees went in to this game after a promising point against Wakefield last week. However, their minds were certainly preoccupied with the last time they faced a very tough Barnsley side.

Leeds started brightly and within minutes set up a chance which just went wide of the post from a Jonah Reed effort. Barnsley tried to get a foot hold in to the game, but Leeds just didn't give them space and were quickly in their faces. As usual the back three of Sonny Davies, Oliver Grayston and James Chalk were outstanding and gave the Bees self- confidence.

As the game went on Leeds created more chances and put together a Brazil like move, which led to their first goal when Hiyabeal Habtai slotted the ball home, making it 1-0 Leeds. More superb work from the dominant midfield of George Croston, Isaac Gibson, Ethan Duckworth and Ethan Alem, set up more chances, but sadly Leeds couldn't find the goal they deserved. Barnsley did find themselves with a good spell in the first half and started to test the resolute defence of Leeds. However, when called upon George Marsden stood tall and showed great hands with some excellent keeping. It really was going to take something special to beat him today.

The half time whistle was blown and the Leeds outfit went in 1-0 up and massively deserved it. Mr Postle and his coaching staff were definitely proud of the lads at this stage, but knew Barnsley would be out of the traps quickly second half. Big team talk needed!

The second half started and Leeds made changes. The ever dependable Henry Kidd and Joshua Kibwana entered the fray and straight away got hold of the ball to start an attacking move. Jonah Reed went past two defenders and a free kick was awarded. Leeds hit a beauty straight into the roof of the net and they made it 2-0. The celebrations started and it was like a scene from the 92 League winning side Leeds Utd. Wow the limbs!!

The game went on and the demands were tougher for Leeds as Barnsley pushed to get themselves back in to the game. Chances came for the home team but to avail, as again the Leeds keeper George Marsden threw himself at every incoming shot. Then a moment of brilliance from the Leeds midfield who put Jonah Reed through for a great chance, it looked as though he was always second best to this, but from out of nowhere, he poked the ball in to the bottom corner and now the celebrations could really start. 3-0 Leeds and the fans went wild!!

Barnsley threatened at this point looking for a goal and they did finally make a break through with a scruffy goal, which trickled in to the net. 3-1 Leeds. Then Mr Postle made some late changes to shut up shop and it worked. More solid defending in the latter stages and the Bees could see the win out.

Overall, a spirited performance and every player showed 100% commitment to get this win. Barnsley, you boys took one hell of a beating!!