

ROTHERHAM SFA U11 3 – 2 LEEDS SFA U11

Leeds Under 11 slipped to a narrow defeat at Rotherham after a pulsating game played on a small, narrow pitch which made for a frenetic scrappy game. The defensive line up of Harry Keelighan - Wright, Riley Campbell and George Prior defended robustly, forcing Rotherham to shoot from distance. Leeds threatened up front with energetic Will Dobson proving a handful and wide players Blake Nolan and Charlie Elias getting behind Rotherham's defence. It was this trio which combined to open the Leeds account as Nolan fed Dobson who played the ball to Elias to strike a stunning shot into the top corner.

Leeds was in the ascendancy when an Rotherham player was tripped outside the area and Rotherham equalised with a fierce shot past keeper George Fletcher and then an unfortunate collision in the Leeds area resulted in a penalty to give the home team a half time lead.. The second half was a tense battle and Rotherham increased its lead with a well taken individual run and goal. Leeds redoubled its efforts and with combative Alfie McBride in midfield with Dobson, Leeds got back into the game from a beautiful curling cross from Joseph Caddy onto the head of Zack Carroll to make the score 3-2. The pressure was on Rotherham and the backs were to the wall. A shot from Jeremiah Mattis flashed narrowly wide before the same player just failed to connect with Carroll's shot which the keeper parried. A long throw by Blake Hallsworth was flicked on by Dobson and cleared off the line before Nolan's inswinging corner was clawed out from under the crossbar. Carroll burst through the defence to run clear on goal before being cynically floored by the onrushing keeper who amazingly escaped the anticipated red card. Carroll took the free kick and his deflected strike hit the underside of the bar. Great spirit shown by Leeds and on another day the team would have got a deserved draw.