



Sports Report

Year 9 Football Team miss out on Penalties!

Our battling and committed Year 9 boys narrowly missed out on advancing to the 4th round of the English Schools Cup Competition as they were knocked out due to a penalty shoot out.

The boys travelled over to Highcliffe School (Bournemouth) excited and ready to carry on from their brilliant round 2 victory over Chichester High School. They started very nervously, both teams not wanting to concede. Tom Dawson used his pace twice to create two goal scoring opportunities in the first 20 minutes but we couldn't break the deadlock. We had most of the ball in mid-field, with Charlie Miller and Matt Brockelhurst too skilful for their centre midfielders. However the Highcliffe boys were very strong in the tackle and in the air. The two Ryan's; Hill and Porter were 'solid' as usual and restricted Highcliffe to only a couple shots in the first half. Unfortunately we conceded a sloppy and scrappy goal in the 28th minute which left the score at half time 1-0 to Highcliffe. Just before half time James Mogford was substituted for Zac Chiverton because of a reoccurring back injury.

At half time the boys agreed with me when I said that we had more of the ball, the better chances and were dominating the game when the ball was on the floor. We needed to come out firing in the second half right from the whistle if we wanted to win the game. The boys did this and again had more possession and the better chances but shots from Conner Henderson, Tom Dawson and Matt Brockelhurst still didn't level the scores. The 45 minute mark passed and we won the ball in midfield and slotted the ball through the Highcliffe defence, for Tom Dawson to out pace and out strength the centre back to coolly slot the ball past the Highcliffe keeper to make it 1-1.

Our back 4 of Sayers, Hill, Porter and Chiverton all impressed, by keeping the Highcliffe forwards at bay, even when their number 10 looked very sharp and 'a unit'! With 10 minutes left, the ball was on the left flank with the ever impressive and quality Steve Deacon, who got a corner which Ryan Woodford took. The ball came in the box, rebounded off a few players and looped up 5 yards from goal for TOM DAWSON to head in his second of the game.

With 1 minute of the game remaining the ball found its way past the impressive Chiverton, past Porter and Hill and underneath Phillips in goal, it landed to the Highcliffe striker who only had to curl it past Sayers into the goal to level the match at 2-0 (against the run of play).

Extra time saw both teams look conservative and were scared to throw the game away. The final whistle went and the game went to the dreaded penalty shootout.

Our five takers were Sayers, Hill, Porter, Deacon, and Henderson (credit goes to these boys for having the guts to step for the team and take a penalty.....Well done!)

Sayers missed the target over the ball, they scored, Hill had a great hit saved, They scored, Porter coolly scored, They hit the bar, Deacon calmly slotted in the corner, Phillips Saved, Henderson then had his penalty saved and the final penalty was scored by Highcliffe who won the game and progressed onto the 4th round.

The boys were a credit to the school and played well enough to win the game.

Well Done

Mr Bricknell