

Buckhurst Hill 4

Tilbury 0

Essex Senior League

Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2024

Report by Mason Hutchinson

Following defeat in the cup on Tuesday, Tilbury faced a trip to Buckhurst Hill in the league. Just two changes were made to Marc and Liam's side from mid week's loss to Barking with Dean Hall, Callum Ibe and Harry Donovan replacing Alfie Fry, David Knight and Alex Clark.

The Dockers almost had the perfect start when new man, Callum Ibe, collected the ball just outside the six-yard box. However, his strike was fantastically saved and pushed onto the post by Reed.

Tilbury seemed to be comfortable in possession, but The Stags were quick going forward and a sumptuous flick round the corner by George Thompson released Shae Hutchinson. The winger kept his cool to go around the keeper and open the scoring.

Just 10 minutes later, Tilbury thought they found the equaliser through Roman Campbell who got on the end of Dan Trendall's ball over the defence. Campbell then netted from 10 yards, but his celebrations were cut short by the linesman's flag.

Buckhurst Hill took advantage of Tilbury's frustrations and, the goal scorer, Hutchinson battled very well to create a chance out of nothing. He then picked out the arriving Moncur before he slotted the ball into the bottom right-hand corner.

Things went from bad to worse for the visitors as straight after half time, Shae Hutchinson found his second of the match when he closed down North and cut out his clearance. The ball landed back to the feet of the attacker who fired into the empty net and increased the deficit.

Searching for a lifeline, Tilbury started to put some passes together and came close as Roman Campbell set the ball down to Oli Spooner and Sam Carter within 5 minutes of each other. Unfortunately, both efforts failed to trouble the keeper.

Then The Stags were able to put the final nail in the coffin with The Dockers committing bodies forward. It was Shae Hutchinson who was on hand to grab his hat trick with a low angled drive from the right-hand side.

That was all the action at Myrak Park, and it was a day to forget for Tilbury. The 23-game league unbeaten streak had come to an end and our lead at the top of the table had

shrunk to 8 points with a game in hand. The Dockers are back in action of Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March as we travel to West Essex for a 7.45pm kick off.

SQUAD: North, McQueen (Fry), Joynes (Plunkett), Hall (Knight), Martin, Donovan (Browne), Spooner ©, Carter, Ibe, Trendall (Salter), Campbell.