

Tilbury 1 Buckhurst Hill 0    Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2023    Essex Senior League    ATT 180

Report by Mason Hutchinson

Following victory in the cup against Walthamstow, Tilbury welcomed Buckhurst Hill to Chadfields for some Essex Senior League action. The game went ahead after a 10:30am pitch inspection following the effect of storm Ciaran leaving matches postponed. Christian North kept his place in goal with Oli Spooner returning to the side after returning from his holiday.

It didn't take long for The Dockers to show their clinical side, scoring with their first attempt of the match. Dan Trendall picked up the ball 40 yards from goal and drove towards the area before slotting the ball through to Harry Donovan. Donovan had two defenders on him, but the midfielder was able to shift the ball out of his feet and strike a rocket into the top corner to give Tilbury the lead.

The hosts thought they had doubled their lead after just 13 minutes when Dan Trendall was causing problems once again. The winger gained possession on the right flank and cut inside onto his left foot where he hit a fantastic curling effort headed for the top corner. The keeper was rooted to the spot, but Trendall was denied by the frame of the goal.

What followed was little to no action as neither side came close to getting themselves a goal. The next best chance went the way of the visitors when they worked the ball into a nice area on the edge of the box in the 70<sup>th</sup> minute. But the strike was not enough to test Christian North who easily kept a hold of the effort.

The home side were able to come close again though when Roman Campbell was played through with two defenders all over him. The strike was seemingly bundled onto the floor as he attempted to take his shot, but the referee decided it was not a penalty.

Late on, The Dockers began to look nervy as Buckhurst Hill were throwing men up the field looking for an equaliser. The Stags came close with a long ball in the dying moments towards the back post where a header was played across the face of goal, but nobody was on the end of it to tap home.

That was all the action at The EMR Stadium, and the win meant that Tilbury had climbed to second in the league standings. It was also the fifteenth game in a row unbeaten for The Dockers. Tilbury are back in action on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> November for a 7.45pm kick off as we welcome Little Oakley to Chadfields.

SQUAD: North, Fry, Joynes, Donovan (Metalia), Hayes, McQueen, Martin, Spooner, Clark, Campbell, Trendall (Browne).

SUBS UNUSED: Salter, Page, Mokwenye.

GOAL: Donovan.