

Tilbury 4

West Essex 0

Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2024

Essex Senior League

ATT - 245

Report by Mason Hutchinson

Following a stalemate in the week against Barking, it was back to Chadfields as we welcomed West Essex for another league fixture. Jack Hayes returned to action following an injury and debutant David Bell appeared on the bench for Marc and Liam's side.

It was a perfect start for The Dockers who took the lead after just 8 minutes when Harry Donovan was on hand to poke home the rebound from Macauley Joynes' free kick.

Soon after, the hosts came close to scoring a second as Callum Ibe displayed mesmerising footwork to escape the challenges of two defenders. However, his low cross was unable to find Roman Campbell in the middle.

Tilbury would go on to double their lead courtesy of the captain, Oli Spooner. Spooner picked up the ball from just outside the West Essex penalty area before drilling his strike into the bottom corner.

It continued to be a day for the midfielders when Sam Carter jumped in on the action. West Essex failed to clear from a corner and the ball fell to Carter whose perfectly-struck half volley rolled into the bottom right corner.

The visitors looked a completely different side after the break and almost kickstarted a comeback, but Harry Girling got across brilliantly to deny the free kick attempt.

Then, on the hour mark, the day went from bad to worse for West Essex when Harry Donovan netted his second of the day to put The West to bed. The chance was crafted

by Callum Ibe as the winger fizzed a cross into the box and forced the keeper to push the ball directly into the path of Donovan who made no mistake from 10 yards out.

In the dying moments, West Essex hit Tilbury on a quick breakaway, searching for a consolation. The counterattack was headed by Bromfield who slotted through Bartlett-Antwi. The substitute took his shot first time and failed to find the target, with his effort smashing the crossbar.

That was all the action at the EMR Stadium and a dominant display saw extend our lead at the top of the Essex Senior League table to 13 points. The Dockers are back in action on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> April when we host title rivals, Woodford Town in a 6 pointer for a 3pm kick off.

SQUAD: Girling, Fry, Joynes, McQueen, Hayes (Hall), Donovan (Bell), Spooner ©, Carter, Ibe (Clark), Hutchinson (Browne), Campbell (Knight).

GOALS: Harry Donovan x 2, Oli Spooner, Sam Carter