

Tilbury 3

Newmarket Town 0

Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2025

Isthmian League North

Chadfields

ATT 285

Report by Mason Hutchinson

Following defeat on the road to Brentwood Town, we prepared for a busy Easter weekend at Chadfields. Tilbury hosted Newmarket Town on the Saturday as there was still a slim chance of a play-off push. However, the visitors needed a win as they fought for survival. Marc and Liam made a couple of changes to the side from last Friday, as Kieran Jones and Darren Phillips replaced Dan Trendall and Jamie Reynolds.

The Dockers broke the deadlock after 26 minutes as Lindell Stewart drove towards the by-line on the left wing before pulling the ball back across the face of goal. Harrison Day was on hand to come flying in and finish from close range to give Tilbury the lead.

Just 7 minutes later, The Dockers doubled their lead courtesy of a clinical counterattack as Harrison Day pounced on a mistake from Ben Robinson, who misjudged the flight of the ball. Day released Alex Hernandez, whose lobbed effort flew over James Young and found the far corner.

The hosts had an opportunity to extend their lead further after some good play down the left-hand side allowed space for Macauley Joynes to deliver a cross. Oli Spooner rose above the defence to meet the cross, but his header slammed against the crossbar. The follow-up was saved, and Lewis Clark fired wide from the resultant corner.

But there was still time before the break for Tilbury to find another goal as Macauley Joynes' corner was pushed away by Young, but only as far as Darren Phillips. The defender headed back across goal and netted the third of the day and his third goal for the club this season.

Following the break, play was halted as the referee was unable to continue due to him picking up an injury. Luckily, Liam Dawson was in the crowd and available to step up to run the line for the remainder of the game.

With 15 minutes left on the clock, The Jockeys came close to closing the deficit through Stan Leech. However, his looping volley attempt was matched by a brilliant save from Tom Middlehurst.

Despite this chance, Tilbury continued to dominate and were once again denied by the woodwork. Kieran Jones collected possession on the left wing before slipping a pass through to Lindell Stewart. The winger skipped past the challenge before trying to poke the ball into the near corner, but his effort hit the inside of the post and managed to stay out of the net.

But The Dockers were still not content with the scoreline, as in the dying moments, Alfie Fry did excellently to win his 50/50 on the halfway line and play a pass through to Dan Trendall on the right-hand side. His low cross was cut out by the keeper, and Harrison Day came steaming into the area to turn in the follow-up, but his strike was incredibly saved by James Young.

That was all the action at Chadfields, and Tilbury's sixth straight home win put them 5 points away from a play-off spot with two games remaining. The Dockers are back in action as we "travel" to face Grays Athletic on bank holiday Monday. Make sure to get down to Chadfields so you don't miss the famous El Chavico!

**SQUAD:** Middlehurst, Fry (Weston), Joynes, Phillips (Martin), Clark L, Clark J (Terry), Spooner © (Wickens), Jones, Hernandez (Trendall), Day, Stewart.

**GOALS:** Harrison Day, Alex Hernandez, Darren Phillips.