

London Lions 0

Tilbury 3

Saturday 6th September 2025

FA Trophy First Round Qualifying

Rowley Lane

Report by Mason Hutchinson

Following defeat in The FA Cup, Tilbury had an opportunity to right their wrongs in another FA competition as we travelled to London Lions for the FA Trophy First Round Qualifying. Marc and Liam made just one change to last week's starting lineup as Nathan Best made way for Kieran Jones. Joel Addo also returned to the matchday squad, as he featured amongst the substitutes.

The Dockers started the game on the front foot and almost took the lead inside just 5 minutes. Kieran Jones released Dan Trendall down the right wing, where he beat his man and found the arriving Max Appauh on the far side. Appauh shifted onto his left foot and drilled a shot towards the bottom corner. However, he was denied by the outstretched leg of Nathan Bloohn.

Tilbury would take the lead soon after, when Trendall got the better of his man once again with an identical run before working the ball onto his left foot and finding the top left-hand corner to open the scoring.

London Lions came close to finding an equaliser when they won a corner in the 19th minute. An in-swinging delivery from the right was directed towards Michael Perkins, who rose well to fire a header goal-ward. The ball headed for the top corner but cannoned back off the crossbar, and Tilbury managed to clear.

The visitors came close to doubling their lead when Dan Trendall found a way around the back of the defence once again. He won the footrace against the keeper and knocked the ball around him, but Trendall lost his footing and was crawling to the ball to try to get it over the line. Unfortunately, a defender was able to get back and deny the forward.

From the next attack, Tilbury broke on a quick counterattack as Jamie Reynolds carried the ball forward into a 3-on-1 situation with support from Kieran Jones and Dan Trendall. He opted to roll the ball to his right for Dan Trendall, who took a touch and made no mistake with the finish to score his second of the day.

With 15 minutes to go, The Dockers netted a third after some tidy play down the left flank. Lester Ward slotted a pass inside to Dan Trendall as the scorer became provider with a cute pass around the corner to Medo Konte. The full-back burst into the area and calmly finished into the bottom corner.

The away side almost made it 4 when Lester Ward was played through 1-on-1 with the keeper rushing out towards him. Ward poked past Bloohn, but the strike was denied by the post. Then, in the dying moments, Ward was handed another opportunity, but his lofted effort bounced just wide of the target.

That was all the action, and Tilbury had secured their place in the next round of the FA Trophy. The Dockers are back in action on Tuesday 16th September in a 7.45pm kick-off, when we host Waltham Abbey in Isthmian League North action.

SQUAD: Fairs, Reeve, Konte, Martin, Hayes ©, Carter, Reynolds, Ward, Appauh (Best), Jones, Trendall (Aderibigbe).

SUBS UNUSED: Addo, Wallace.

GOALS: Dan Trendall 2, Medo Konte.