

Basildon Town 0

Tilbury 3

Pre Season Friendly

Saturday 12th July 2025

Report by Mason Hutchinson

Following victory against Athletic Newham, we took the short trip to face Basildon Town in another pre season friendly.

The Dockers got off to a quick start, finding the opening goal inside 10 minutes. A free kick from the left-hand side was delivered into the area, where the ball fell to Sam Carter. The midfielder's effort was saved, but Luke Reeve was on hand to emphatically fire home and open the scoring.

Basildon Town almost found a swift reply as their number 9 chased a ball over the top before skipping past a challenge, but his outside-of-the-boot attempt rolled just wide of the near post.

The visitors began to get a hold of the game as Oli Spooner was played in down the left before he found a trialist on the edge of the area. The forward danced away from the defender to open up space for a shot, but it was well saved down at the keeper's near post.

Before the break, Tilbury came close to doubling their lead when Jamie Reynolds helped a pass along its way into the path of Oli Spooner, who came bursting through the middle of the pitch and into the penalty area. However, as the captain got the ball under control, the keeper did very well to rush out and make the save before smothering the ball.

After making a few changes, The Dockers eventually found their second goal right after the interval. The passage of play saw an attack crafted on the right wing before an effort led to the rebound falling kindly for our trialist, who was in the right place at the right time to slot the ball into the empty net.

Tilbury managed to put the ball into the net again on the hour mark, when Quelle Weekes headed the ball back across goal from a corner for Juwon Akintunde to head home from close range. However, the linesman's flag was instantly raised to rule the goal out for offside.

Soon after, Weekes was involved again as he made a clever run down the right-hand side of the area and drilled a perfect cut back into the path of the late-arriving Dan Trendall. Unfortunately, his first-time strike was denied by the keeper.

But the third goal was inevitable, and in the dying moments, the ball bounced back out to our right wing-back on the edge of the area. He evaded a challenge and chopped onto his left foot, where he curled a brilliant strike into the far corner to put the game to bed.

That was all the action in Basildon and Tilbury were able to get some more vital minutes into the tank ahead of the 2025/26 season.

The Dockers are back in action on Wednesday 16th July when we travel to face Buckhurst Hill in a 7.45pm kick-off.

First half XI: Trialist, Trialist, Reeve, Hayes, Martin, Trialist, Spooner, Reynolds, Carter, Trialist, Phillips.

Second half XI: Trialist, Trialist, Trendall, Reeve (Trialist), Martin (Trialist), Wallace, Jones, Carter (Trialist), Reynolds (Weekes), Akintunde, Trialist.