

Tilbury 2

Stanway Rovers 1

Thursday 3rd September 2026

FA Youth Cup Preliminary Round

Report by Mason Hutchinson

Tilbury u18's kicked off their FA Youth Cup campaign with a home fixture against Stanway Rovers. Having already featured in a couple of our first-team squads, both Zain Hussain and Freddy Townsend started for our young Dockers.

The hosts came close to opening the scoring after just 10 minutes, as Jayden Coltman battled well down the right-hand side before drilling a low cross towards Kye Hagerty. However, the winger's effort was blocked, and a good save from Alfie Oliver denied the rebound from Robert Butterfield.

The deadlock was eventually broken in the 36th minute through Jayden Coltman, who did brilliantly to pin his defender and hit a volley on the swivel into the near-side bottom corner to open the scoring.

Unfortunately, the lead would not last long as Stanway Rovers would hit back shortly after the break. Oliver Corps collected the ball on the left wing before advancing inside the area and fizzing a low cross to set up Tyus Kerry-Wright, who fired home at the back post.

Stanway would have an opportunity to go ahead for the first time in the game when a mix-up at the back awarded Jacob Wood with an open net from 18 yards out. However, the attacker was unable to find the target under pressure, as his effort rolled just wide.

The Dockers kept pushing for a late winner, and they thought they had found it through Freddy Townsend, as he directed his effort towards the bottom corner from a long throw-in. Tilbury players believed the ball had crossed the line, but it was somehow kept out by a spectacular save from Alfie Oliver.

However, Tilbury would regain their lead from the resultant corner, as Regan Oakley's delivery incredibly looped over Oliver's head and flew all the way in.

That was all the action at Chadfields, and a late winner was the difference as Tilbury advanced in the FA Youth Cup. The first team are back in action on Tuesday 15th September when we travel to Cambridge City in Isthmian League North action.

SQUAD: Hussain, Ibrahim, Fatona, Oakley (Grantham), Coltman (Clements), Davenport, Townsend, Jell, Hove, Butterfield (John), Hagarty (Lloyd).

SUBS UNUSED: Livingstone, Beck, Green.

GOALS: Jayden Coltman, Regan Oakley.