

Basildon United 4 Tilbury 1 (Att 113)

Following a good point against league leaders Aveley in a new years day fixture, 2 days later Tilbury found themselves up against a team at the opposite end of the table in the shape of rivals Basildon United. Tilbury would have hoped to gain momentum from the Aveley fixture with a nice 3 points on the table from Basildon. What was to follow couldn't have been further from what was expected and wished for, A Tilbury side that lacked 2 senior centre backs due to injuries but also lacked any identity finding themselves beaten all over the pitch.

Tilbury started the more lively with Jessie Temitola making driving runs at the Basildon defence that they struggled to cope with. Basildon gave away the first free kick in a dangerous area on just 4 mins. Lewis Smith took the kick with a short pass to Roman Campbell who in turn struck his shot directly at Basildon keeper Emmanuel Olajide for a comfortable save. Temitola continued to pressure Basildon further with runs into the box eventually being brought down on the 15 min mark winning The Dockers a penalty. Roman Campbell stepped up the spot kick only to strike wide of the target.

Basildon started to find their way into the game with their own pressure on the Tilbury Back line. Only 3 mins after Tilbury missed their penalty referee Joe Gray adjudged Sam George had brought down Robbie Farrell in the box awarding Basildon a spot kick. A low driven shot to Harry Girling was saved well by the Tilbury stopper.

On 30 mins it was Temitola again that was causing Basildon problems forcing Olajide to push away a good right footed strike and Lewis Smith to then put the follow up effort wide of the target.

Only a minute later the deadlock was broken against the run of play, some sloppy defending allowed a shot from Albert Brayley that took a slight deflection to beat Girling low inside his right post.

After the break it was Tilbury again with the early pressure on 49 mins Roman Campbell force Olajide into a full spread save with his outstretched left foot putting the ball out for a corner. Eljay Worrell delivered onto the head of Chris Millar who could only find Olajide's hands. Millar found himself with another opportunity on 54 mins, a back heel from Campbell set the shot that went just wide of the left post.

Tilbury was unlucky not to equalise on 55 mins a Charlie Kendall strike finding the back of the net, only for the ref to rule the goal out as he had blown his whistle for a free kick just before the ball crossed the goal line. The ensuing free kick from Smith could only find the netting behind the goal as he struck well over.

Finally Tilbury found their equaliser on 60 mins, Temitola with another of his runs into the box was brought down for a second Tilbury penalty. This time taken by left back Eljay Worrell the ball found the target and brought the game level.

Tilbury were only level for 5 mins when Basildon started to find another gear while Tilbury only found reverse. Basildon took the lead from a close range from Yao Aziamale.

Tilbury made further attempts at the Basildon goal 2 shots from Smith both wide of the goal and a shot from Worrell only good enough for the keeper to collect.

The dying minutes of the game Basildon kick on with their assault and scored 2 goals in injury time. Defensive errors in the Tilbury defence allowed an easy headed second goal for Yao Aziamale followed by a 4th goal courtesy of Alexander Balisani.

A Tilbury Side that needs much improvement going on this performance.

Tilbury: Girling, Boswell, Worrell, Noble, George, Nelson, Olukolu (Metalia), Kendall, Campbell, Millar (Tiffin), Smith

Subs Unused: Peart, Upton, Tomlinson