

Tilbury 0 Witham Town 0 ATT 185

Off the back of a 2-1 win against Brentwood, the Dockers welcome relegation threatened Witham Town to Chadfields. The visitors are currently under the guidance of caretaker manager Chris Taylor and were looking for 3 points to try and secure safety. After a pickup in form Tilbury currently sit 12th in the standings and hoped to continue this promising run. The home side's squad saw many of the u23's making an appearance on the bench as well as their captain Sam George getting his first start this afternoon.

The earliest chance of the game fell to Witham in the 9th minute, through Nigel Aris who beat his man on the left-hand side before his cut back found Godward who's effort fell to Akpele as he was dispossessed with a great last-ditch challenge by George.

Tilbury started to take control of the game with a few half chances that was nothing keeper Rhys Madden couldn't deal with. Then in the 19th minute Willis had space on the right-hand side to swing in an early cross which found Akpele but he couldn't direct his header goalward.

The 21st minute saw Charlie Kendall play a perfect through ball to cut open the Witham defence and find Roman Campbell who nipped in before the keeper and was brought down in the penalty area. Campbell stepped up to take it, but the keeper dived the right way and got down well to deny the home side from taking the lead.

It took until the 33rd minute before Tilbury could create another chance where new signing, Jesse Olukolu created space for himself to cut the ball back to Millar who was running onto the cross and had his effort denied by an amazing reflex save by Witham keeper, Madden.

Rhys Madden was called to action again when Olukolu found Coombes with time on the edge of the box, but his low effort was matched by the keeper who got down to his left side very well.

During the second half, the Dockers were trying to create a way through as Campbell had the ball played down the right-hand side to him before he played a ball into the box trying to find Kendall who slid in and saw his effort go wide of the post.

In the 74th minute, Witham won a free kick just inside Tilbury's half which the home side couldn't clear and the ball came to Witham's number 5, Luke Ige, but his acrobatic effort went wide of the post. This was a warning sign to Tilbury that they had to convert one of the chances they were creating if they wanted to win this game.

There wasn't much action until in the 82nd minute, Madden made a great save after Tiffin's dead ball effort was heading for the top right corner. The Dockers continued to apply pressure and in stoppage time Olukolu flicked the ball towards Kendall who had more time than he realised as he rushed his shot, and his effort was fired over the bar.

That was all the action this afternoon at the EMR stadium, and the disappointing result meant that Tilbury had dropped to 13th in the league table as Coggeshall had an emphatic 4-0 win over Romford. Sam George was named Tilbury MOTM after a very solid defensive performance and clean sheet in his first start for the first team.

Tilbury are back in action at 3 o'clock on December 27th away to Canvey Island in the league.

SQUAD: Girling, Tiffin, Boswell, Nelson, Allen, George, Olukolu, Coombes, Campbell, Kendall, Millar (Metalia)

SUBS UNUSED: Mensah, Upton, Tomlinson, Moreton

Report by Mason Hutchinson