

Dagenham & Redbridge 2

Tilbury 0

Saturday 15th November 2025

FA Trophy Second Round

Victoria Road

ATT 1091 (305 Tilbury)

Report by Mason Hutchinson

The time had come for Tilbury's FA Trophy Second Round trip to face National League South side Dagenham & Redbridge. This was the first time in 43 years that Tilbury had competed in the Second Round of this competition, with the last time coming in 1982. George and Jack's squad for this fixture featured the two new signings, Mo Amir and Ronnie Winn, amongst the substitutes, with Tobias Braney returning to action up front.

Dagenham & Redbridge were close to taking the lead early on as the ball bounced back out kindly for Joe Haigh. The midfielder tried his luck with a first-time volley, but the effort didn't dip enough as the ball glanced the top of the crossbar.

The Dockers had the best chance of the opening 20 minutes through a signature long throw-in from Oli Spooner. This caused issues for The Daggers, as Dan Trendall's backheel attempt was blocked, before Tobias Braney had his close-range flick denied by Sam Howes.

On the hour mark, the hosts were reduced to 10 men when George Marsh's high and late challenge on Jack Hayes left the referee no choice but to pull out the red card.

But quality eventually showed, as Dagenham & Redbridge brought on their former Premier League striker and England international, Andy Carroll. The big man brought an instant impact as he was the target from a deep corner. Carroll headed the ball back across the goal, and Christian Maghoma bundled the ball over the line to give his side the lead, with their first attempt on target.

Tilbury kept pushing for an equaliser, and it almost came after 72 minutes. The Dockers sent in a corner of their own from the right-hand side, and Darren Phillips rose well to meet it. Phillips cannoned his header towards the far post, but it was cleared off the line by Andy Carroll.

But in the dying moments, as Tilbury committed men forward, Dagenham & Redbridge broke quickly on the counter. The ball was rolled across the area to Dylan Stephenson, and he fired home from the edge of the 6-yard box to send The Daggers into the FA Trophy Third Round.

That was all the action at Victoria Road, and despite the defeat, Tilbury put up a brilliant fight against opposition two divisions higher. The Dockers are back in action on Tuesday 18th November, when we host Harwich & Parkeston in the Essex Senior Cup.

SQUAD: Wheatley, Reeve (Fry), Phillips, Hayes, Konte, Carter (Amir), Spooner © (Brocklebank), Reynolds, Trendall, Agyiri (Jones), Braney.

SUBS UNUSED: Winn.