

Bowers and Pitsea 0
Tilbury 0
(Bowers win 5-3 on penalties)

Len Salmon Stadium
Tuesday 16th July 2024
Thames-Side Trophy
Report by Mason Hutchinson

It was time for our second game of pre-season as we travelled to Bowers and Pitsea for the Quarter-Finals of the Thames-Side Trophy. Twins, Lewis and Jordan Clark made their first appearances in a Tilbury shirt as well as Sam Bantick.

The Dockers started bright with a few half chances but nothing to trouble the keeper. And it was Christian North who was forced into the first save of the game when he tipped an effort onto the post and managed to hold onto the ball before it crossed the line.

Tilbury were next to form an attack with Alex Akrofi battling well to craft an attack from nothing. Akrofi spread the play out to Trendall and the winger's cross found Sam Bantick at the back post. However, his volley couldn't find the target.

On the half hour mark, a slip from a Tilbury defender allows the Bowers number 9 a chance one on one. Christian North stood tall and made the save keeping the score level.

The visitors were quickly up the other end with a quick break down the left-hand side. The ball made its way to Sam Carter who punches a pass into Jordan Clark in the middle of the park. Clark drove forward before lining up an effort from distance which flew just wide of the far post.

After the break, a cross was sent into the area and forced goalkeeper David Hughes to commit. However, Hughes missed the ball as it was headed down to Dan Trendall who struck a shot toward the stranded goal. The effort was blocked by what looked like a Bowers arm but despite Tilbury's protests, the referee waved away their claims.

With 20 minutes left on the clock, the hosts won a free kick in a dangerous area on the right-hand side of Tilbury's penalty area. TQ Addy was the man to take the set-piece and his attempt dipped just too late as the crossbar denied Addy's strike.

That was all the 90 minutes had to offer, and we were set for a penalty shootout. Bowers and Pitsea were perfect from the spot as they scored all 5 and Tilbury were defeated due to missing our second strike from the spot.

Bowers: Trialist B (GOAL), Averio (GOAL), Trialist G (GOAL), Addy (GOAL), Jones (GOAL).

Tilbury: Knight (GOAL), Ramsey (MISS), Spooner (GOAL), Clark J (GOAL).

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SQUAD: North, McQueen, Joynes, Hayes (Hall), Bantick, Spooner ©, Akrofi (Knight), Carter, Trendall (Ramsey), Clark L, Clark J.

