

Brightlingsea Regent 2

Tilbury 2

Saturday 6th December 2025

Isthmian League North

North Road

ATT 247

Report by Mason Hutchinson

Following a frustrating defeat in the week against Stanway Rovers, The Dockers faced a trip to Brightlingsea Regent in more Isthmian League action. George and Jack named an unchanged starting 11 from Tuesday, with Alex Balisani and, u18's EJA player, Jake Weston returning to the squad amongst the substitutes.

The hosts took the lead inside 5 minutes when Daniel Rowe picked up the ball on the left-hand side of the pitch. Rowe weaved in and out of two challenges before finding the back of the net from the edge of the area.

Soon after, The R's thought they had doubled their lead after another strike from the edge of the area was saved, but pushed into the path of Ola Bello, who tapped the ball into the net. However, the linesman's flag was quickly up to disallow the goal for offside.

The Dockers began to grow into the game and came close to scoring their first of the day when Dan Trendall was released down the right wing. Trendall skipped past the full-back before driving inside the area and firing his shot towards the near post. He was denied by the woodwork, and Ezra Agyiri was unable to turn home the rebound.

Tilbury would find the equaliser, as a long, bouncing ball forward was too much for Idreess Namisi to deal with. Tyler Forbes did brilliantly to apply pressure, win possession and take the ball around the keeper to level the scoring.

But there would be enough time for Brightlingsea Regent to go into the break with the lead, thanks to an equally poor mix-up at the back from Tilbury. Jack Clowsley was the first to react, pouncing on the loose ball before passing into the empty net.

After half-time, the visitors almost levelled the game up once more, when Dan Trendall's dinked pass was met by Kieran Jones, who flicked the ball over the head of Luke Avenell. Jones' looped

attempt struck the inside of the post and rolled across the line, but was not deemed to have crossed it.

On the hour mark, Ola Bello was on the receiving end of another disallowed goal, as he directed the ball into the net at the back post, before his celebrations were cut short by the linesman once again.

Brightlingsea Regent could have been out of sight as a corner from the right-hand side was headed goalward, but incredibly denied by Dion Henry, who got across quickly to make the save and keep Tilbury in the game.

And it proved to be vital, as in the final minute of stoppage time, u18's EJA player, Dan East drew a foul inside the box, and the visitors had the opportunity to draw level in the dying moments. Kieran Jones stepped up and made no mistake, snatching a point on the road for Tilbury.

That was all the action at North Road, and it was another point on the board for Tilbury. The Dockers are back in action on Tuesday 9th December when we travel to Billericay Town in the Essex Senior Cup Quarter Finals.

SQUAD: Henry, Forbes (East), Reeve, Hayes © (Fry), Elliott, Ward, Winn, Amir, Jones, Trendall, Braney (Agyiri) (Balisani).

SUBS UNUSED: Weston.

GOALS: Tyler Forbes, Kieran Jones.