

Brantham Athletic 2

Tilbury 2

Tuesday 7th October 2025

Isthmian League North

Brantham Leisure Centre

Report by Mason Hutchinson

Following an incredible victory over Chertsey Town in the FA Trophy on Saturday, we travelled to Brantham Athletic to finally play the match that was previously cancelled halfway through due to a floodlight failure. We held a 2-goal lead at half-time thanks to goals from Dan Trendall and Lester Ward, but they were wiped out, and today we had to start again from scratch. Marc and Liam made just one change to the starting lineup as Juwon Akintunde replaced Tyler Forbes, who was away on international duty with The British Virgin Islands.

The Blue Imps created the first chance of the game inside just 2 minutes when Harry Honesty fought his way through the Tilbury back-line to create a shooting opportunity for himself, but the forward dragged his effort wide.

The Dockers began to take control of the game and came close in the 17th minute, when Kieran Jones played a beautiful pass between the full-back and centre-half to release Oli Spooner. Unfortunately, his strike was denied by Dion Henry.

Soon after, Henry was called to action again as Lester Ward skipped past his man on the left and whipped a ball into the area. Kieran Jones got up well to direct his header goalward, but Dion Henry dove across brilliantly to make the save.

Tilbury kept up the pressure and had one final chance before the break courtesy of Max Appauh. The winger picked the ball up on the edge of the area before weaving through three challenges, but the eventual shot was curled just wide of the far post.

The visitors finally took the lead just before the hour mark, when Brantham's headed clearance from a cross went only as far as Sam Carter, 18 yards from goal. Carter lined up his strike and hit a first-time volley into the bottom right-hand corner to open the scoring.

Tilbury came close to doubling their lead as Max Appauh spearheaded a quick counterattack. Appauh carried the ball from one area to the other and slid a pass right to Medo Konte, who was in support, but Dion Henry was down quick to match the effort.

Then, with two minutes of normal time remaining, the hosts launched a ball down the left flank. Harry Fairs was out quickly, but the keeper was beaten to the ball. The winger kept composed and fizzed a pass across to Nidal Berri, who scored in the empty net.

Things went from bad to worse for The Dockers, as Fairs was caught out again and Nidal Berri robbed the ball to score his second goal in the space of 2 minutes, as he surely handed Brantham Athletic their first league win of the season.

Fortunately, Tilbury worked the ball up the other end and out wide to Max Appauh on the left. The forward chopped back onto his right foot and delivered a perfect cross towards the back post. Luke Reeve was the man who rose above the Brantham defence and looped his header over the helpless Henry to salvage a point on the road.

That was all the action in Brantham, and we went home with just the one point. The Dockers are back in action on Saturday 11th October when we host Redbridge in more league action.

SQUAD: Fairs, Reeve, Konte, Hayes, Martin, Spooner ©, Carter (Balisani), Jones (Reynolds), Appauh, Ward (Aderibigbe), Akintunde (Trendall).

SUBS UNUSED: Bett.

GOALS: Sam Carter, Luke Reeve.