

Tilbury 2

Felixstowe & Walton United 1

Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> October 2024

Isthmian League North

Chadfields

ATT 295

Report by Mason Hutchinson

Tilbury were back at home in the league as they hosted Felixstowe & Walton in a very early 6-pointer. Marc and Liam made two changes to their starting 11 from Tuesday's draw at Newmarket Town as Connor Martin and Cameron Brodie replaced Sam Bantick and Jack McQueen who both made their way to the bench.

The Dockers had a brilliant start, almost taking the lead directly from kick-off when Dan Trendall was allowed to carry the ball into the area. His low ball flashed across the face of goal but nobody could get the final touch.

But the hosts found the breakthrough after just 7 minutes when Oli Spooner was fouled inside the box and Tilbury were awarded a penalty. In-form striker, Alex Hernandez stepped up and rolled the ball into the net to score in three consecutive matches.

The home side continued pushing forward, and Trendall found himself with space again in a wide position. This time his drilled cross found Alex Hernandez but the striker couldn't direct his attempt goalward.

The visitors came close to levelling the game up just before halftime when a dummy from a Felixstowe attacker opened up space for Sam Ford. However, the eventual strike was denied by David Hughes.

The Seaside would find the equaliser soon after through Josh Mayhew who slid in to get on the end of Charlie Warren's cross and poke home to get back level.

The Dockers thought they had regained their lead when Jack Hayes' header looked to have crossed the line but the linesman waved away any claims of a goal.

But Tilbury would find the winner in the game's dying moments courtesy of Alex Hernandez after Sam Bantick's attempt which rebounded back off of the crossbar. Hernandez was first to react as he headed in from close range to net his fifth goal in five appearances.

Things went from bad to worse for the visitors when Cameron Forde-Brown was given his marching orders for a late challenge on Bantick which gave him a second yellow card.

That was all the action at Chadfields and a massive win for Tilbury propelled them up to 4<sup>th</sup> in the league table. The Dockers are back in action on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> October when we host Witham Town in another 6-pointer.

SQUAD: Hughes, Fry, Joynes, Carter (Jones), Hayes, Martin, Reynolds, Spooner ©, Hernandez, Brodie (Bantick), Trendall.

SUBS UNUSED: McQueen, Clark.

GOALS: Hernandez x 3.