

Teams – Boxted Reserves v Bradfield Rovers
Comp – ESBL Res. Div. 1 League Match
Venue – Bradfield

This week we travelled to Bradfield for our 4th league game of the season and due to the lack of players the gaffer had to re-shuffle his team around from the one that beat Glemsford 6 – 2 in the previous game and had to start Nick (Nose) Ellen & Jon Weedon in the unfamiliar roles of centre half with myself playing just behind them as Sweeper, Dan Foulkes stepped into midfield along side Charlie Holohan & Andy Driver with Ryan Trussler & AJ playing at wing-backs which left us with the not so quick but very experience front two of Mark Hayton & Scott Fowler. The pitch was in poor condition and we knew that the long grass was not going to favour our style of play but if we was to go away with anything from this game it was going to done with a lot of hard work. It started off slow with some of our players getting to know there new roles and lack of communication sometimes lead to a bit of confusion at the back but I think that was to be expected, there wasn't much to write about in the first half, Nose and Weedo seemed to have the measure of the two strikers, AJ & young Ryan were doing some great tracking back and although we were trying to feed our front two, there was not many clear cut chances at either end.

Half Time – 0 – 0

The 2nd half started out with Bradfield on the attack but our defence seemed to be up to the challenge and in control, there was not much going on at the other end of the pitch until Nose picked the ball up from myself on the edge of our box and run straight through their midfield then threaded the ball to Hayts who calmly slotted home to put us one up. We did not have to wait much for the next goal when Fowler broke the off side trap and the ball fell kindly to Ryan who thrashed it into the roof of the net to cap off a fine day for the youngster who keeps getting better with every game. Bradfield then pushed and extra man up front and kept loading our box with a “Rory Delap” style throw in and corners, not long, after two goal mouth scrambles and some poor defending the home side had managed to pull the two goals back to make it 2 - 2 and we had started to press the panic button until about 5 mins before the end when Fowler found himself in space, swept the ball out to Ryan who roll it back into his path for the Boxted Legend to pass the ball into the back of the net for the winner.

Full Time 3 – 2

Another good 3 pts lads but we are gonna have to play better than this in the week to come.

El Capitan!