



CHARTER STANDARD CLUB

Flore Park Rovers – Match Report



18/10/20 Flore Park Rovers 1 West Haddon Eagles 2

Once again FPR found themselves on the wrong side of the result following a competitive and robust encounter with West Haddon Eagles.

The Eagles are West Haddon's more senior under 18 team. Unfortunately, they did have a tendency to contest every decision that went against them and showed a lack of respect towards the excellent lady referee, Phoebe Horner. That aside, the match was once again compelling with FPR illustrating their footballing prowess at every opportunity as well as exhibiting their steely defensive qualities.

FPR had the better of the early exchanges; Morgan forcing the Haddon keeper into a save from his free kick on 6 minutes. Moments later Adam again forced the keeper into a save when he latched onto a half clearance and fired goalward; the keeper diving full stretch to parry the effort away.

FPR took a deserved lead on 18 minutes following some exceptional play down the left. ET initiates the attack finding space to neatly play the ball to James down the left, he then played a superb one two with Lewis before out-muscling a defender and sending a fierce cross into the box. A defender got to the ball ahead of Morgan and Charlie but could only deflect the effort into his own net.

Haddon reacted well as they forced Caleb into action with a shot from 20 yards; the keeper saving well. From the resultant corner Charlie produced a tremendous headed clearance from under his own crossbar to ensure the lead was maintained.

Moments before the break Haddon did restore parity when a corner found an unmarked player who powerfully headed home.

In the opening minutes of the second half Caleb was forced into a number of saves, the pick of which was from a close-range header that he managed to parry away to his left.

There was an excellent ebb and flow to the game; FPR's passing game enabling them to transition quickly from defence into midfield and then attack. George combined with Charlie who set Adam away into space, the winger seeing his curled effort saved by the keeper.

In a more routine approach Charlie flicked on Morgan's long throw allowing Sam to latch onto it, unfortunately the strikers effort was straight at the keeper.

FPR came really close to restoring their lead when Morgan's free kick from 25 yards was parried onto the foot of the post and somehow scrambled clear in the ensuing melee.

A free kick at the other drew another fine save from Caleb as he turned away a goal bound header.

On 68 minutes FPR's defence was breached again from another set piece; a subtly weighted chipped cross out-witting the FPR back line and allowing the striker to steal in and nod the ball passed a helpless Caleb.

A further save followed as an effort was deflected onto the post. FPR pushed for an equaliser but the Haddon defence held firm.

In a game where it could be argued FPR deserved at least a point they came away empty handed; however, the competitive nature of the team was there to be seen.

Playing in his 200th league and cup match for FPR Caleb produced an excellent performance in goal (the referee's man of the match) while defensively the boys again equipped themselves well against intimidating opponents. ET and George continue to shine in the holding role while the work rate of Charlie, Adam, James, Sam and Morgan cannot be argued with.

If the commitment and desire the lads showed is maintained, they will find themselves more often than. It on the right side of the final score line.