

Water Polo Match Report

Fleetwood Juniors Vs. Burnley Juniors

24th September 2009

On a blustery Thursday evening, playing to a near capacity Fleetwood Leisure Centre, Fleetwood Jnrs welcomed Burnley Jnrs.

Kicking off at precisely at 8:00, thanks to the strictly punctual referee J.J Myers, the opening exchanges were cagey as both teams took time to settle. It was a full 5 minutes into the match when Burnley opened the scoring, unfortunately for them this prompted a reaction from the Fleetwood team. Just 20 seconds later "Iron" Mike Lydon equalised after a good build-up from the back by James "Sloaney" Sloane. Fleetwood dominated the later part of the first quarter and went into the break 2-1 up thanks to a trademark goal from "Angry" Alex Myers made possible by some hard work from Steve "the Biscuit" Burton.

At the start of the second quarter, Fleetwood demonstrated their class with a slick passing move, involving every player but masterminded by Emily "Churchill" Winston, before the final shot unfortunately rebounded off the crossbar.

It wasn't to long before Fleetwood extended their lead as Emily "the Wanderer" Young scored from long range. The fourth Fleetwood goal came from a fast break and cool finish from "Captain Jack" Hirst, who also added his second of the match but not before Burnley pulled one back. Halftime arrived with the score at 5-2.

Burnley rallied for the third quarter and reduced the deficit to two a minute after the start. Fleetwood showed their character once again as the away goal spurred them into action, in particular Sam "Mouth" Ormerod who scored two in 2 minutes after some tough mid-bath work from team youngsters Jasper "the Dynamite Kid" Croston and Andy "the Rock" Wetherill. Burnley were provided with an unexpected lifeline from the Fleetwood Coach as he appeared to be having a conversation with his goalkeeper as the ball hit the back of the net from a Burnley long range effort. Burnley added another goal just before then end of the quarter making the score 7-5.

The home team settled the crowd with an early goal in the fourth quarter from Ollie "Rocket" Roe, put on a plate for him by some creative play from Millie "Vanilli" Croston. Burnley responded almost immediately putting the gap back to two goals at 8-6.

At this point Fleetwood stepped it up a gear; firstly Lucy "Crusher" Wetherill got a well-earned goal after ploughing straight through the Burnley defence. "Iron" Mike Lydon grabbed his second of the game after another impressive team move, then victory was assured as Ollie "Rocket" Roe lived up to his name and launched one from long distance into the top corner.

The game ended with Fleetwood the victors and the score at 11-6.

Man of the match performance goes to James "Freckles" Lydon who played with great maturity and gave a master class in defence. The watching senior players were seen taking notes on how it should be done.

Fleetwood Juniors will travel to Burnley for the reverse fixture on Wednesday 14th October before taking on Liverpool away on Sunday 18th October.

Well done to the team on their fourth straight victory!!

S.Brown