

## **HotScots vs Holyrood Star**

The HotScots came into this game against unknown opposition so we treated them with the utmost respect and lined up with a strong 4-4-2 formation, with next week's start to the league campaign in mind.

The HotScots were raring to go from the warm-up and this was evident as they took their game to the opposition straight from the off. The opposition were having their first competitive match and this was probably a contributory factor in the HotScots opening blitz, with 2 goals in the first 3 minutes. This set the tone for the match.

The first half was dominated by the HotScots with some good passing, interchanging and communication evident in their performance, with the central midfield dominating. The opposition, it was fair to say, had few opportunities to score in the first 45 though there were some scares.

Half-time, 5-0 to the HotScots.

**The second half** was very much more of the same. The HotScots again dominated the match, but again I felt they were allowed to do so, with the opposition's formation giving the defence little cover and the attack little ammunition to help them score. At times they seemed to adopt a 5-1-4 formation. Better discipline and shape should come through time for them. The HotScots themselves have come through this steep learning curve.

However the HotScots were not for being sympathetic, they were relentless in their desire to win and through the second half were homing in on a double figures score for the first time in their existence. Substitutions kept the team fresh and all contributed to the good performance. A change in formation was also accommodated in the second half allowing for the attributes of the players. A little sour note was that the HotScots nearly had a 'rubicon' moment, their first ever clean sheet, but it was not to be. A defensive mix-up put paid to that. But, come the final whistle it was a matter of how many for the HotScots as they sauntered to victory.

In retrospect The HotScots played well, however it could be said they were allowed to do so. The final score of 13-1 did not flatter. Special note must be given to those who got a double hat-trick and those who nearly did. They know who they are!! And those who got a good mazy goal then got punted back out to the wing and then off!! Soz Craig!! And also Stu who got one.

From the game the HotScots can take some pointers. One is that they can interlink well and that understanding is being enhanced, hopefully the dominance of the midfield will transfer onto games where the opposition are more determined, organised and stronger. The team had a slight tendency to take their foot off the gas, this may be punished by stronger opposition so this will have to be addressed by all.

We leave the day with a victory and pointers for the road ahead. Next week will see us play our inaugural game in the league. Hopefully we can bring our 'A' game to the opposition despite our limited travelling squad. If not the Titans will punish us more than today's opposition. We need to take heed. Here's hoping! ☺