

1st A Birmingham Boys' Brigade Boxing Day Football 26th December 2018

A lovely Boxing Day morning with no wind to spoil the game as the players and supporters started to gather in the car park. A lot of enthusiasm from the youth, can't say the same for the older players. Once Dom had worked out how to blow the whistle the teams and supporters gathered for a short prayer to remember why we are gathered, with a special mention to Mr P.

The kids outnumbered the olds but the ref agreed that was okay, coin toss, hand shake and the game kicked off.



A dubious hand ball on the edge of the area and the youth take a quick free quick which the old boys couldn't deal with and goal. The kids scored another quick goal to make it two nil.

Great save from Johnny as his dad blasted the ball into his stomach from close range, ouch!!, a short pause in the game.

Eventually the old boys scored, the youth were moaning at the ref as they thought it went over, but goal given, the only good decision by the ref all game!

A mistake by George in defence and the old boys equalised. I'm sure Sam

was heard telling him to go up the other end of the field, or words to that effect!

The kids were playing a good game, some good passes and tackles flying in. The old boys should have scored a few more but Paul Baz didn't have his shooting boots with him today.

Lots of corners for the old boys, which the big lads at the back were dealing with comfortably. A counter attack by the kids, with some of the old boys struggling to track back, a shot hitting the post, bouncing of the diving goalkeepers head to put the youth ahead, who put him in goal?



Another attack by the kids, and a mix up in the box the ball trickled towards the goal line, like a gazelle the old boys keeper dived on the ball, clearly preventing a goal, however after consulting with VAR the ref gave the goal and the half time whistle blew. Half time 4-2 to the youth.

The usual tea, coffee, biscuits and squash provided by Mr & Mrs Clarke went down well.

Second half kicked off and immediately the old boys pulled the score back level with two quick goals.

The olds took control of the second half and a few goals were scored, no coincidence that Paul Baz was now in goal, but he did make a couple of good saves.

The olds were showing some great touches, especially the build up to one of their goals when the majority of the team touched the ball, the fact that their touch went in the opposite direction to that intended, just had the effect of confusing the youngsters!

After a bit of chat between Simon and the ref, winning goal was shouted, think Simons heart rate had gone above zone 2! Hampy has a one on one with the goalkeeper (where did Brian come from?) but some good back tracking by the youngster's defenders and the chance went. Eventually the olds scored, and the ref blew his whistle.

Three cheers for both teams rang out across the field.

Many thanks to Simon for the kit, Dom for refereeing, Mr & Mrs Clarke for refreshments and all the players and supporters for attending.

A great game of football as usual.

