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F.C. BRITANICO 2 - 2 BODEGAS TRITIS

Britanicos let a two goal lead slip against League Champions

Neil Moran's Britanicos were left kicking themselves after letting a 2 goal advantage slip away in the space of 5 second half minutes at Valdebernardo.

Numbers were thinner than Paul Heal's hair this week with the Mivam team scraping together the bare 11 to start the 9am kick off versus last year's double winners, Bodegas Tritis. It was always likely to be the toughest test so far of this young season and so it proved.

Clear chances were few and far between in a first half that saw defences dominate with FC Britanicos central pairing of Martin Daly and Mike Ojo in particularly commanding form. There was one real chance which fell to Britanicos left winger Ed on the 30 min mark. After the referee had waved away claims for a handball in the opposition box the ball spun to Ed (pictured right) whose snapshot from 8 yards struck the keepers legs and was cleared to safety.

So no goals at half time but no complaints either from the management team who were both pleased with the endeavour shown by the Britanicos boys.

The second half started in much the same way with both midfields searching for the telling pass or an error in the opposition ranks. But the goal that broke the deadlock on 68 mins was a peach of an individual effort. Ed, atoning in no small way for his earlier miss, collected the ball in the inside left position, deftly turned inside his marker and cracked an unstoppable right-foot shot across the keeper from 20 yards.

Britanicos, now with their tails up, went in search of a second and they got it shortly after. Simon reacting quickest at the far post to head in a corner. 2-0 with little more than 20 mins to play.

But to give credit to the opposition they refused to buckle although they may well have been dead and buried if Warwick Smith's shot, from the edge of the box, to make it 3-0, hadn't gone narrowly wide. Instead the visitors grabbed a goal with an excellent piece of play. A pinpoint cross from the right wing found the head of the striker and his header arrowed past Juanma. This galvanised them even further and the equaliser came moments later when Britanicos lost possession in the middle of the park and paid the ultimate price when the ball was turned in at the far post from a low centre.

On reflection a fair result in what was an evenly-fought game played in good spirit. The oppositions "remontada" possibly aided by their constant use of the "rolling substitutions" system while one or two tired legs crept into the Britanicos XI.

But 3 games played and the team remains undefeated going into the holiday break. A good start and not a bad point against last year's best team.

Britanicos :- Juanma, Ledwith, Daly, Ojo, Atkins, Mullarkey, Smith, Tariq, Ed, Simon, Blasco. No subs

Goals : Ed (1), Simon (1)

