



St. Mary's Football Club

Match Report

Saturday 12th November, Thunderhawks versus Oliver Plunkett.

St Mary's continued their impressive form as of late, gaining the advantage of the late kick off versus Oliver Plunkett. In the first period it was a very tight affair with both teams vying for possession. Plunkett took advantage of sloppy St Mary's defending and took an early lead. The Hawks started to get their passing game together in the midfield with Conor O' Neill and Ryan Russell rallying the troops. Ben Skillen in nets made some fantastic saves consistently throughout the first two periods as the Plunkett attackers posed a great threat.

It was in the second period that St Mary's started to take control on the game with Michael Armstrong scoring his first goal for the club after a scrappy goal mouth scramble. David Smychzek and Russell both had their shots saved one after the other by the Plunkett goalkeeper before Armstrong slotted it home to grab a much deserved equaliser! Adam Kelly making his debut for St Mary's deserves a mention for his technical skills and great all round play jinking through the Plunkett defence and creating many chances for his team mates. The Thunderhawks took a 1 goal lead into the final interval after Russell rifled a penalty into the top corner. The Plunkett defender made a rash challenge in the box when Kelly was one on one with the goalkeeper.

Plunkett pulled a goal back in the final period but they were to be denied any more chances throughout the game with solid defending from Conor Small, Denis Price and Niall Davey in particular who was all over the pitch, consistently tackling and winning the ball for his team. Although it was Conor O' Neill who deserves the man of the match award. Throughout the game he made some fantastic runs with and without the ball to help his team mates. He tortured the Plunkett defence twisting and turning and running passed defenders. He got his just rewards and scored a fantastic goal from a corner which in the end was the winner of the game.

Man of Match: Conor O' Neill