



St. Mary's Football Club

Match Report

Under 18

St Marys FC 3-2 Bloomfield

St Marys started the day with a strong team, going for a 4-5-1 formation and starting with debutant Bryan Todd at left back. It was a slow start for St Marys, in bad conditions, with Bloomfield having the best of the early chances but unable to make anything of them.

St Marys kept going and good work resulted in the team winning a corner. Daniel Crilly took the corner and put a brilliant ball into the back post where the Bloomfield defender misjudged the flight of the ball and missed his header. Marty Moore was caught flat footed and unable to react quick enough to take the opportunity to get in on goal.

As the match progressed the wet pitch was causing problems for both teams with players slipping and mis-controlling simple passes. St Marys first real chance came around 25 minutes in when Burger played a through ball over the top from just behind the half way line. Mark Hillen ran onto the ball and tried to get around the keeper who brought him down inside the area. Penalty awarded! Mark Hillen stepped up, feeling confident from last season's impressive tally of 18 goals. Mark put the penalty to the keeper's left but the keeper done well to get down and save. Mark pounced on the rebound and was again taken down in the box from what seemed like a certain penalty. The referee thought otherwise and waved play on.

After the disappointment of the missed penalty, St Mary's dug deeper and really began to take hold of the game at the half hour mark, resulting in a free kick inside Bloomfield's half. Daniel Crilly again took the set piece and with a half chance falling to Alex Ramos he only managed to put his effort wide.

St Mary's were then awarded a second penalty after Marty Moore was taken down inside the box. After Mark's earlier missed penalty, Marty Moore stepped up to see if he could do what Mark hadn't and put the ball in the back of the net. Marty picked his spot and hit a good effort to the keepers right only for the keeper to make another good save and push the ball away for a corner.

As half time drew closer, Darragh Loughlin lunged into a tackle on the half way line and the referee produced the first yellow card of the game. With St Mary's defending well and applying good pressure in midfield, Bloomfield found themselves restricted to long range effort the never troubled Soupy in nets.

HALF TIME: St Mary's dealing comfortably with any threat from Bloomfield's attacking

players. Applying pressure in the attack and should really be going into the second half with a two goal advantage.

SECOND HALF: St Mary's start the second half with an unchanged team as Bloomfield kick off. An early attack from Bloomfield results in another long range effort being deflected but well held by Soupy in nets. Bloomfield still played well in the attack and received a corner for their efforts. The corner was put in and a poor effort put over the bar. A quick thinking Soupy got the ball down, and with good vision, saw Mark Hillen unmarked on the half way line. Soupy took a quick goal kick, before the Bloomfield defence could gather themselves, and put Mark through on goal who drives at the keeper and slots the ball down the keepers right hand side. 1-0!!!

Not long after, Niall Dunn closed down a ball in midfield and the ball broke to the lone striker Mark who fired past the keeper to make it 2-0! St Mary's are comfortable at this point when Darragh Loughlin signals to the bench that he needs to come off due to a recurring injury in is back. Darragh comes off to give another debutant his chance to shine. Marty Burns comes into the game at CM as Burger drops back into defence to replace Darragh. The game continues without much action and St Mary's managers decided to put Daragh Magee, another player making his St Mary's debut, into the mix. Alex ramos makes way in a straight swap and Daragh goes onto the right wing.

The change pays off and the Daragh Magee manages to get himself off the Mark with his first goal for St Mary's! Good work from Daniel Crilly in defence to play the ball out to Marty Burns, who passes to Marty Moore. Moore lofts a ball through to Daragh who controls, rounds the keeper and puts the ball into an empty net. St Mary's continue to play good football, allowing Bloomfield to create little, with Burger doing well in his new position at CB. This led to another goal scoring opportunity as Marty Burns and Mark Hillen linked well but Burns shoots narrowly wide of the goal.

Sub: Paddy Sojka comes on for Daniel Crilly who had put in a good shift and worked hard.

At 3-0 St Mary's got a little complacent and Bloomfield were awarded a penalty of their own after Finton McCaughey was judged to have pushed a player inside the area. Bloomfield's No. 14 scores. 3-1. Shortly after, a through ball puts Bloomfield's forward through on goal. He takes his chance...3-2. St Mary's now found themselves in a tough battle to hold onto a slim lead after looking so comfortable for the majority of the game but they didn't give up and continued to create chances late on. Bloomfield applied pressure too, trying to find the equalizer but some great keeping from Soupy kept the Bloomfield efforts at bay. Dan McConville was then taken down in midfield by a heavy challenge and was taken off by the St Mary's managers as precaution. Bloomfield player yellow carded. St Mary's where not finished and with Danners closing down the Bloomfield defence he tried lobbing the keeper but seen his effort glance the top of the bar.

FINAL WHISTLE: A good win to the start of the new season! St Mary's are looking strong and have plenty of strength in the squad which is sure to give the managerial team a headache in the coming weeks.

Starting Line Up:

GK – Liam Campbell (Soupy); Dan McConville; Finton McAuley; Darragh Loughlin; Bryan Todd; Daniel Crilly; Marty Moore; Niall Dunn; Niall Graham (Burger); Alex Ramos; Mark Hillen.

Subs: Paddy Sojka; Daragh Magee; Marty Burns