

ICSS U15 v The Park School

1. Igor
2. Mikhail
3. Kyle
4. Dmitri
5. Mikhail
6. Jason
7. Danylo
8. Sergey
9. Sunnatjon
10. Andrey
11. Pro
12. Stanislav
13. Ben
14. David
15. Yang
16. Feng Xu

The IC's first game of the season took place on a Thursday afternoon in early autumn weather. Although the squad had only a few practice sessions together it was evident in phases of the game that the squad had already started to learn from the hard work that they had put in during training sessions.

The game kicked off at a very quick pace and with the IC looking nervous it wasn't long before a quick break by the Park's attackers down the left resulted in a goal. After barely getting going, the IC found themselves trailing by a goal. This lead was quickly added to by the Park School as the IC defence was beaten by the speed of the opposition attack.

At two goals down some substitutions were made with Yang and Ben coming on to bolster the defence and attack respectively. It wasn't long before the Park were on the attack again but some excellent defending from Mikhail at right back seemed to inspire the team as a whole. Dmitry was soon involved with another great tackle and the IC's captain, Sunnatjon found himself on the ball.

After exchanging passes with Sergey, he broke down the left beating a couple of defenders, before sending in an excellent

cross that was tucked away by Andrey, who timed his run to perfection and beat the defender at the back post. The IC were now only one goal behind. The Park School played out the rest of the half with some good passing.

At the break there was a rousing team talk from Mr. Taylor and another couple of changes. A tiring Mikhail took a break to be replaced by Feng Xu. David replaced Danylo who had worked tirelessly in a defensive midfield role.

The second half started well for the IC as they enjoyed some good possession and the run of the ball. A foul on Andrey was followed by some good passing and Sunnatjon found himself in space at the edge of the area with the ball at his feet. Sunnatjon struck the ball powerfully and even though the opposition goalkeeper parried the ball, it still found the back of the net. The IC were now level at two goals each.

After this great comeback the IC were positive of getting a result but were cruelly punished by a break away goal that goalkeeper Igor was unable to keep out of the goal. Try as they might the IC were unable to come back again and the IC lost their first match. The team are building on a solid foundation though and look forward to their next matches against Clayesmore, home and away twice either side of half term.

GT