

THE NEW JERSEY SOCCER GROUP

Press Release



Friday 30th May, Allentown, PA

Colonials Face Disappointment Against Stoners

The Morris County Colonials' trip across the Delaware to face the Pennsylvania Stoners ended in a disappointing 4-0 defeat at Allentown's J. Birney Crum Stadium on Friday night. The scoreline, however, doesn't totally reflect the balance of the game which saw a much improved performance compared to their 7-0 thrashing by Long Island Academy.

Colonials' keeper John Jameson was handed his debut by Head Coach Adrian Borrows who also welcomed back captain and midfield lynchpin Rob Alman after his ankle injury which prevented him from playing the opening fixture twelve days earlier. Billy Collins also made his first appearance for the team in the center of a midfield five.

After conceding a goal within 60 seconds against Long Island, the priority for the Colonials was to have a solid start and they were doing well until the 10th minute when Billy Collins gave away a dangerous free-kick on the edge of the penalty area. Collins tried to make amends by blocking the shot, but his deflection resulted in a Stoners corner. The set-piece was met by a Stoners' head and Jameson made a fantastic save, but the ball landed at the feet of Adam Welch who stabbed the ball home. The Colonials now had to re-focus and ensure they scored the next goal by maintaining better possession and providing quality service to lone striker Jonny Donado. While the quality of passing was much better than against Long Island, the Stoners' goal was rarely threatened in a first half which saw no further change to the scoreline.

The mood in the Colonials' locker room was optimistic at half-time and an upbeat start to the second period was not only expected, but essential to put the Stoners on the back foot. However, the Stoners seemed the more eager to put the game to bed and attacked with verve. Their enthusiastic approach was rewarded in the 50th minute when Jesse Schram's finish only just crept over the line despite John Jameson's valiant attempt to keep the ball out. At 2-0 down, Borrows' team had to respond quickly and Jonny Donado had a glorious chance to put the team back in contention when put through behind the Stoners' defense thanks to a good ball by Jonathan Yazo. Stoners' keeper Sam Bishop stayed strong in the 1v1 as Donado's shot hit Bishop in the chest and bounced clear.

As the half progressed, the Colonials searched in vain to establish a rhythm despite Alman's prompting from the middle and were made to pay again in the 65th when Adam Welch bagged his second and the Stoners' third goal from Schram's assist. Although deflated, the Colonials continued to battle to get on the scoreboard. Dan Buehrens epitomized the Colonials' spirit and had an excellent game in the heart of the defense, breaking up attacks and distributing with good quality. In front of a crowd of over 500 noisy fans, the Stoners wrapped up the evening with a fourth goal by Tom Ehrlich six minutes from the final whistle. Despite the defeat, Adrian Borrows was not completely disheartened. "I'm frustrated about the result, but pleased about the progress made from the first game. This team is still coming together and I'm confident we have the quality necessary to make a good impression in this league. The players are learning fast about what is required to compete at this level."

The Colonials travel again this weekend with games against the Maine Sting on Saturday and Boston Aztecs on Sunday. Coach Borrows will be hoping the trip to New England sees them on the road to winning ways.

More about the Morris County Colonials at
More about the New Jersey Soccer Group at
More about the NPSL at

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