

MATCH REPORT

League Game

13th November 2022

Reigate Town FC 4 – 2 Coulsdon Athletic FC

After a long week, and a delay in posting, Remembrance Sunday saw Coulsdon Athletic playing an away game at Reigate Town, a team we had beaten already in the league this season, and also in preseason. However the way they played us last time their way to try and beat us was to disrupt our rhythm, by making the game scrappy with tempers flaring and us losing our focus.

This time, we had to react in the right way.

However from the ref blowing his whistle, we weren't right. We hadn't seen this so far this season, but every aspect of our game was off.

It wasn't one or two of them not at the races - but just about everyone.

Whether it was passing, decision making, composure, clearing our lines.

We were 1-0 down inside 10 mins. A scrappy goal that should've been cleared, but after a couple of ricochets, the striker sticks it in the net.

The second goal was a needless penalty, a definite penalty and one that we could not even try and challenge. No chance for Xander and it's 2-0.

Late in the first half, we shook off the scrappy display we had so far put together and instead built up a good attack that saw Duggs on the right hand side of the box pass the ball square into Josh's feet, He used his body really well to shield the ball and slide it into Nath's feet, and he unleashed a powerful low right footed drive out of the reach of the diving keeper and into the corner of the net. Somehow we had dragged ourselves back into the game! 2-1!

There was all of a sudden a lift in our spirits. We became compact and looked like we had finally switched on! Only for the ref to blow his whistle, and the half ended.

It turned out that the break was the worst thing that could've happened after us ending on such a high. The second half saw us slide back into the way we started the first half and unfortunately within 10 minutes we found ourselves 3-1 down to a scrappy goal.

With about 10 minutes to go we conceded a fourth. The most disappointing aspect to all of this was that the goals we gave away were easy goals for our opposition, they didn't really have to work too hard to score.

With about five minutes left we did work a very nice consolation goal, which is something to take away from the game at least. After some good buildup play in midfield, George played a lovely lob over their defence and Haz, our skipper, ran onto this bouncing ball and lock the outrushing goalkeeper so the game ended 4-2.

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Congratulations to our opposition, it is important to be gracious in defeat as it is in victory, they took advantage of our sloppiness, and punished us accordingly. That win took them to the top of the table.

Sometimes we have to be honest with ourselves.

We are only human.

We are allowed to have an off day.

That's what this talented bunch had - an off day.

We weren't sitting there at the top of the tree with 5 wins out of 5 and not deserving it.

So as part of life, we roll with the punches, we take the feet like men, but most importantly we put it out of our minds and we bounce back next week.

Next week will be a home game in the next round of the junior county cup versus Alexandra United, so this is a match we will be very much looking forward to.

Score: Reigate Town 4 Coulsdon Athletic 2

Goals: Nath and Haz

