



MEN'S FOOTBALL: Liverpool 1-3 Leeds

Visitors comfortably see off Liverpool at Wyncote

Liverpool were comfortably beaten by Leeds in the Wyncote sunshine on Wednesday afternoon during the Christie Championships.

After an even start to the game with both teams getting to grips with the unusually warm weather, Liverpool won a corner that came to nothing.

With six minutes elapsed, Joe Corkill conceded a free kick for handball by the corner flag, but the resulting set-piece was over-hit and sailed behind for a goal kick.

Phil Allen forced a corner with a low shot that the Leeds goalkeeper comfortably put behind with his feet, but again that came to nothing.

Leeds opened the scoring just before the ten minute mark. A long pass over the top of the Liverpool defence picked out Leeds' striker, who was able to lift the ball over Liverpool goalkeeper Harry Scott-Peters and into the back of the net.

It was almost 2-0 when a failed overhead kick went behind for a succession of Leeds corners, but Liverpool clung on and survived.

Scott-Peters produced a great save when a curled effort from a Leeds midfielder from the edge of the penalty area looked to be heading into the top corner, but after 20 minutes, the pattern of play was set: Liverpool were yet to properly get going.

On 21 minutes, Leeds scored again. A low drive found the bottom corner leaving the goalkeeper with no chance on this occasion.

It should have been 3-0 on the half-hour mark, but the ball took a bobble as it was cut back from the by-line, and the shot that came in was sliced horribly wide.

Liverpool had a bit of a go at getting back into the game for a few minutes, upping the tempo momentarily, but then normal service resumed in terms of the pattern of play that had been set early on.

Leeds had two efforts in quick succession around 35 minutes, the first of which forced Scott-Peters into a good save, with the second lashed well over the bar after a corner routine was worked to the edge of the area.



Dylan Sweeney switched play to the right-hand side which produced a Liverpool shot that was pulled well wide, before a Leeds ball over the top and in behind led to a half-volley that just went over the bar.

Liverpool did manage to pull a goal back through Tyler Reeve on 53 minutes when he curled a shot past the Leeds goalkeeper, but

the two-goal cushion was immediately restored when Leeds nicked the ball in the final third and raced through on goal.

The ball ended up in the back of the Liverpool net, and even if it hadn't it would have been a penalty to Leeds for a last-gasp foul.

Leeds should have extended their lead further when they wasted a counter-attack that saw them go four against two but the final ball was poor and the eventual shot went straight to the goalkeeper, with no pace on it to trouble him.

Tom Young forced the Leeds goalkeeper to make a simple save on 65 minutes as Liverpool tried to get within touching distance again, before Young found Sweeney, whose eventual cross was poorly placed and easily cleared.

The game then entered a scrappy spell with neither side able to keep the ball. There were numerous small fouls and even more misplaced and over-hit passes.

The final ten minutes or so were a non-event as Liverpool were resigned to a defeat, and Leeds were content with the scoreline they had already built up. It was a comfortable victory for the visitors in the end.

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