

Trinity Academy 4 James Gillespie's 0

5/9/14

Trinity Academy bounced back from last week's defeat to Newbattle, with an emphatic 4-0 victory, at the expense of visiting side James Gillespie's. Trinity will be delighted to get their first win of the season under their belt and it would be hard to argue the game should have delivered an alternative outcome.

The match started evenly, but it was a poor, scrappy first ten minutes which was utterly devoid of quality and any captivating goal mouth action.

The first opening of the game was created by Trinity, when Josh King received the ball on the right wing, using pace to drive to the bi-line and cut the ball back across the face of goal. Nobody was there to meet the cross however and it flashed across the face of goal and the danger was averted by the Gillespie's defence.

Then finally an incident which the home team could get excited about. The ball was floated into the James Gillespie's box and the ball looked to strike a players arm. The referee judged it to be a James Gillespie's arm and signalled for a spot kick.

Callum Sanderson was the man to step up. Effortlessly, he stroked the ball home to break the deadlock, this was a lead which Trinity could look to build upon and draw confidence from.

A couple of tame shots from James Gillespie's was the response to the opener. Trinity goalkeeper Blair Dodds was untroubled and gathered the shots gratefully into his arms. To be fair both keepers were looking comfortable as both penalty areas were lacking in action.

The goal encouraged both sets of players to get the ball down and play. Some nice football was being exhibited, especially in midfield by both teams, but as soon as the pace quickened in the final third the attack broke down as the ball would skid off of the surface and out of play. The conditions were making it difficult.

The players came off at half time knowing they had more gears to find, but it was Trinity had that one goal advantage.

The second half continued in much the same vain as the first and the match had to wait another ten minutes for the first chance of the half to emerge. Lewis Mooney found himself wide right and cut the ball back to Jordan Lock, who was lurking at the edge of the box.

Lock hit the shot first time and the looping ball looked to be heading over, but at the last second it dipped and struck the crossbar. He was ever so close to doubling Trinity's lead.

The second goal for the home side followed soon after and what a magnificent goal it was. Easton controlled the ball well from a Joe Newman throw in and expertly flicked the ball over his markers head. The ball bounced once, before Easton struck the ball on the half-volley which sailed over the keeper, thundered off of underside of the bar and into the net. A stunning strike.

That goal kick-started a Trinity onslaught which the visitors struggled to handle. Shortly following that was a free header for Mooney who watched as his effort looped over the bar, the frustration etched on his face, suggests he knew he should have scored.

The next chance, a couple of minutes later, fell to centre half, Stephane Murray. The ball fell to him at the fringe of the box following a stramash from a corner. His low effort looked to be nestling in the far corner, but instead drifted just wide of the left hand post.

The result of the match then became a formality heading into the final ten minutes as Lock fed a neat ball into the path of John Scally who showed excellent composure to slot past the keeper.

Ebullience amongst the gold jerseys was evident as several of Scally's team mates joined him in his celebration.

If you blinked after the third goal, you would have missed the fourth. Once again Lock turned provider as he found substitute Ozzy Bajo bursting in on goal. He brushed off his marker with sheer pace and managed to keep a cool head during the one on one situation with the keeper to find the net.

A late consolation goal looked to be in the offing as Max Alison bore down on goal. He decided to check back and with that movement he allowed the Trinity defence to get back into shape. Eventually he managed to get the shot away, but his shot flew over the bar leaving Dodds untroubled. That proved to be the last kick of the match which saw Trinity Academy claim all three points.

A magnificent performance, especially in the second half from Trinity who had the visiting side pinned back in their own half for the majority of the second period. A win in their next game, versus St Augustine's will ensure the school's senior team feature in the top division for the coming season.

FT: Trinity Academy 4-0 Newbattle