

## Sutton Goals under 10s National Tournament – Match Report



The National Little League Under 10s 8-a-Side Tournament took place at Goals in Sutton and was a fantastic day for Kingston Little League as the team went all the way to win the inaugural competition. The team consisted of **Alex Buenfeld (Captain), Thomas Field, Luke Smith, Cassian Hyde, Jake Leonard, Jordan Beard, James Bottomley, Josh Davies and**

**Freddie Wilson.** The boys played some excellent individual football but more importantly played as a team despite this being the first time they had played together. The team was managed by Chris Galvin and assisted by his brother Matthew.

Kingston's first game was against Wallington which ended in an automatic 1-0 win to Kingston as Wallington did not turn up for the tournament. The second game saw Kingston play against Highgate and Digbeth who had travelled from Birmingham and were one of the favourites to win the competition. Several minutes into the game Kingston had a penalty given against them, which was saved by Luke Smith. Later on into the game Thomas Field put Kingston into a 1-0 lead with a spectacular goal. Kingston held the lead until the last few minutes of play when the team lapsed defensively and were punished by Highgate and Digbeth getting an equaliser. The game looked set to end as a 1-1 draw but Alex Buenfeld picked up a great pass and smashed the ball into the bottom corner of the goal to make it 2-1 to Kingston. It was a brilliant performance from the boys who showed great determination to win the game against excellent opposition.

The next game was against Sutton and was one of the highest scoring games of the competition. Kingston put on another first class display of football and won the match convincingly 6-1. The first goal



came from a well placed finish from Tom Field. Cassian Hyde got the second goal and this was shortly followed by two more goals from Josh Davies. Jordan Beard's persistent hard work got himself on to the score sheet to make it 5-0. Kingston conceded but instantly replied with Buenfeld rapping up the points with another well placed finish to make it 6-1.

With 9 points from three games qualification was already assured, but that didn't stop the boys from winning their final group game against New Malden winning in style 4-0. Josh Davies's finishing was superb and he scored a hat trick. Freddie Wilson had an amazing game with very solid defending and great creativity, he was unlucky not to get on the score sheet. Tom Field also got a goal with a wonderful solo effort.

	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	Adj	Pts
1 Kingston	4	4	0	0	13	2	11	0	12
2 Sutton	4	2	1	1	7	9	-2	0	7
3 Highgate & Digbeth	4	1	2	1	7	7	0	0	5
4 New Malden	4	1	1	2	5	10	-5	0	4
5 Wallington	4	0	0	4	4	4	0	0	0

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Kingston had taken maximum points from all games and by the end of the group stage the table saw Kingston top of the group, with a Quarter Final against New Addington to look forward to.

It was now the knockout stage defeat would relegate teams into the Plate Competition. Kingston continued their great form by beating New Addington 5-0 in the quarter final. Josh Davies scored two goals with the others coming from Alex Buenfeld, Cassian Hyde and Tom Field. It was once again a great display of team work from the boys.

Having progressed to the Semi-Final, Kingston had their second game against Highgate and Digbeth, who the team knew would be out for revenge for the previous 2-1 defeat. Nevertheless the boys were strong and went 1-0 up from Josh Davies quick free kick which fell to Jordan Beard who had no trouble scoring his second of the tournament. Luke Smith produced a fine display of goalkeeping and Kingston continued to attack the opponent's goal, their patience was eventually rewarded when Cassian Hyde used his speed to take the ball past the Highgate and Digbeth defence and slot in his third of the competition. The team further impressed by demonstrating great sportsmanship in consoling the other team at the end of a hard fought game.

Kingston had made the final and were up against New Malden who they had previously beaten 4-0 in the group stage. The boys knew they would be in for a tougher game. The team that started the Final consisted of Luke Smith in goal, Freddie Wilson, Josh Davies, Jordan Beard, James Bottomley and Jake Leonard who was given captaincy. He demonstrated his leadership by



putting Kingston 1-0 up, with a great goal. Luke Smith was called into action and produced some great saves. At half time Kingston still led 1-0. Alex Buenfeld, Tom Field and Cassian Hyde replaced Jordan Beard, Josh Davies, and Freddie Wilson who had all played superb throughout the whole Tournament. Unfortunately Kingston were caught

napping at the back and were punished by New Malden grabbing an equaliser. Penalties looked likely, but Kingston showed determination and got a free kick, which was taken quickly by Alex Buenfeld, the keeper was able to parry it out but James Bottomley who had positioned himself in front of goal struck the rebound with style. He was fully deserving of his goal having worked extremely hard in every game. Kingston were 2-1 up and it wasn't long before Alex Buenfeld picked up a good pass from James Bottomley and hit the back of the net to make it 3-1. Kingston had won the Tournament and received a standing ovation from the supporters.

Kingston received the Trophy from the Mayor of Sutton; it was a great day for Kingston Little League with the boys demonstrating fantastic ability as well as sportsmanship. They were all a credit to the League.

