

Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> August 2017

**LX Over 65s 2 v Ancient Britons 2**

ABs started well with good interplay and close skill by John Peirce. LX slowly came back into the game but their first attack was well read by German Singh and the danger was averted. LX kept up the pressure and another attack saw German Singh playing ping pong with the LX midfield before the ball was cleared. As the ABs began to take control of the midfield, Jon Beale again showed the quality of his tackle to the crowd as LX found to their cost.

A superb long ball from German Singh found Frank Colwill in space. Frank played the ball onwards to Mike Christie who dribbled past 2 red shirted defenders for a reverse stick attempt but it went wide.

Frank Colwill was looking quite sprightly even though he just managed to arrive in time for the start, as he had been up since 2 am with pre match nerves.

Both sides had moments of possession but the final pass never seemed to find its target and chances became wasted. Fortunately German Singh was reading the game well and intercepted LX attacks as they attempted to enter the circle. ABs then broke free of the shackles and Frank Colwill received the ball on the halfway line and set off on a run, winning a penalty corner. German Singh received and slid the ball left to Jan Ahmed, but his shot was cleared off the line, but was it a foot?? As the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter was coming to a close, the ball was bobbling around in the LX circle. Nobody seemed to take control so Frank Colwill took over at the top of the circle and in **Frank Colwill style, span and smacked the ball home**. Player of the quarter, according to the Note Taker was German Singh.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter saw immediate pressure by LX but again a good interception by German Singh saw Jan Ahmed passing through to Frank Colwill. Frank tried to find Dudley "Ronaldo" Walker but the speed of the pass didn't allow Ronaldo to dive, as the ball was deflected for a long corner. As the ball was moved into the circle Frank Colwill spun and shot, but the keeper cleared. LX regained possession but Allan Sutton stood firm and Jon Beale showed the quality of his tackle again and calmly stopped their progress. Geoff Furneaux was looking a tad lonely in midfield as 6 LX players surrounded him, but he still managed to extricate himself and keep possession. LX still

kept up the pressure but good interceptions from Paul Woodward and David "2 Beds" Read kept LX at bay, whilst German Singh was marshalling the defence. When ABs did break out, it was Mike Christie who went off on a run before passing to Geoff Furneaux but his shot was saved. ABs managed to regain possession and a slick move from Geoff Furneaux to Paul Woodward was moved on to **Frank Colwill, who saw his chance to spin and score.** The 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter was nearly over, when a last ditch tackle from Paul Woodward saved the day, whilst good skills from Geoff Furneaux and Frank Colwill in the midfield had the crowd in raptures. The quarter ended with another long ball from German Singh to Dudley Walker, leaving him just the keeper to beat. The keeper came out to the edge of the circle and the ball was struck straight at the centre of his pads and was comfortably saved.

Half time and Skipper Bruce Baron seemed relatively pleased as the ABs were in control and keeping the LX forwards at bay.

Unfortunately LX were up for it and the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter was spent camped in the ABs half with penalty corner followed by long corner, over and over again. Fortunately John Chong was in fine form and twice saved well from penalty corners, whilst German Singh cleared well from a long corner, along with Geoff Furneaux.

Eventually ABs broke out and Mike Handley attacked down the right, linking up with Mike Christie. Mike found Frank Colwill who in turn passed to John Peirce but his shot was saved and then cleared. ABs though kept up the attack and great movement from Frank Colwill created space on the right followed by a shot, saved in the air leading to a further penalty corner??-- but not given.

The game then swung back in favour of LX and they won a further penalty corner which John Chong saved and David Read cleared to safety. LX won another penalty corner and on this occasion, just before the whistle, Louis Piscina scored for LX, reducing the deficit, leaving ABs leading 2-1.

The 4<sup>th</sup> quarter began similar to the 3<sup>rd</sup> (just as someone predicted – playing downhill in the 2<sup>nd</sup> half is so difficult). LX took control of the game and ABs found it difficult to even get out of their "22". Corner followed corner, either short or long and somehow ABs survived with John Chong at the helm. LX even squandered an open goal when Brian Hiscock hit the post and ABs subsequently cleared. ABs did actually once break free but the final shot at goal from John Peirce was so weak it didn't even reach the keeper. Back

came LX and John Chong saved a further penalty corner and Mike Handley also cleared another off the line. Back to the other end as another German rocket was sent up to John Peirce who passed to Paul Woodward, who was fouled and won a penalty corner. This time ABs failed and Quinney comfortably saved. The pressure from LX was continuous and they forced corner after corner. ABs even had Skipper Bruce Baron on the pitch in order to try and stem the flow and from one of his breaks the ball reached Frank Colwill who kept possession but was eventually circled like the proverbial wagons. Could ABs hold out? German cleared wide but not safely and Bruce Baron smashed the ball to the other end of the pitch.

LX now threw the kitchen sink as well as the crockery at the AB defence and just before the final whistle, they won a penalty corner. Paddy Power and Ladbrokes were offering odds on a goal, whilst Corals and William Hill favoured the AB defence. Sad to say but Ken Wooding scored making the final result 2-2, the same as the first game.

**John Chong, German Singh, David Read, Allan Sutton, Paul Woodward, Mike Christie, Dudley Walker, Jan Ahmed, Jon Beale, Frank Colwill, John Peirce, Geoff Furneaux, Sukhdev Dhesi, Bruce Baron, Mike Handley.**

**Men of the Match: John Chong and German Singh.**

**Supporters: Trevor & Angela Davies, Hazel Hopkins, Karen Daly, Sharon Wingent & Trevor Denison.**

Our thanks to Trevor Denison for his organisation.

Umpires Steve Hoban, Chris Kitto & Graham Reynolds.

The various match note takers (Paul Woodward, Allan Sutton, Mike Christie on the 1<sup>st</sup> Game; Paul Sharratt Mike Handley and Trevor Denison for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Game).