

BCC vs Magruder, Oct 25, 2010

BCC Coach DeMunter and his squad traveled to Magruder HS for the Barons' final match the season. Two players couldn't make the trip due to injuries, midfielder Olivier Toujas and forward Daniel Whitstock.

The Barons started the match with confidence, maintaining good ball control and with several good passes up front. Starting mid-fielders Pablo Goldschtein, Alex Van Hollen, Will Becker and Douglas Guevara combined nicely to keep play mostly on the Magruders half of the pitch. Active at the top were forwards Evan Sevilla and Victor Amaya.

After 10 minutes of play, the Barons got their first corner kick. Defender Paul Delancy was close to scoring on the corner but his header went over the cross bar. The Barons showed patience in maintaining good ball control and more chances would eventually come.

And a chance which turned into a well-deserved goal came in the following minutes.

Goldschtein wins the ball at mid-field and makes a well-timed pass through the defense to a running Guevara. Douglas easily dribbles past the last defender and launches a clear shot aimed for the far post only to see the Magruder goalie make a fantastic save, batting the ball away. Gladly for BCC, forward Sevilla was following the attack from the other side of the pitch and easily picks up the return ball and sets it into the net for the Barons first goal. 1-0 Barons!

After 15 minutes, more dominance by the the Barons finds an attack down the middle of the pitch with Goldschtein making an excellent lobbing pass over the Magruder defense to a on-running Sevilla, who heads the ball over the opposing goalie only to see the shot hit the cross-bar. One of many excellent attacks by the Barons.

In the 22nd minute, Magruder is awarded a free kick just outside of the Barons penalty zone. With 6 men in the Barons wall, the Magruder player manages to kick a low shot passed the defense only to see a diving Phillip Gunn make an excellent save to keep the Barons in the lead. Top-class save by Gunn!

The Barons defense of Delancy, Ellis Palmieri, Brenden Ayala, and Alex Gandal were very stable, not allowing the Magruder offense many chances in the first half. Substitutes Hugo Melander and Christian Cordova added to the defensive stability. The first half ended with the Barons in full control.

Magruder would open the second half with a more aggressive play. On a corner kick, the Barons were caught sleeping when they couldn't clear the ball, and instead served up a Magruder player with the ball. Magruder easily scored and evened play at 1 all.

Forwards Duc Momo and Sevilla would combine nicely on an attack in the 10th minute which caught the Magruder defense off guard. Momo takes the ball up field on the right side beating the defense, and manages a nice cross to a running Sevilla, only to see his second goal denied because of the post.

Nice passing and ball control by mid-fielders Max Moore, Jonas Baker and Joe Feldman contributed to the stability of the Barons midfield. Defending the Barons goal in the second half was Gustavo Abarca who made several excellent saves which kept the Barons in the match against an aggressive Magruder offense.

With 2 minutes left and the score tied 1-1, Magruder gets a free kick just outside the Barons penalty area. The Magruder shooter makes a nice shot which “bends” around around the Barons wall, and was surely on it's way in the Barons goal. But defender Brenden Ayala came running across and cleared the ball at the last second. Excellent defending!

In the final seconds, the game still tied 1-1, Duc Momo manages again to break free with the ball and dribble around the Magruder goalie who has rushed out to make one last attempt at stopping the Barons. Momo beats the goalie and places the ball in the net for what everyone thought was 2-1 to the Barons. No whistle was blown by the refs signifying the end of the match, and thus the Barons should have been awarded the goal. However, after much discussion which followed, the refs invalidated the goal and reversed their decision for some unknown reason. On to overtime...

BCC showed courage and stamina in taking control of the overtime play and would not let this game slip away from them. In the end of the second overtime, with only seconds remaining, goalie Abarca starts play by sending the ball upfield. Two Magruder players attempt to head the ball back but instead collide with one another, causing the ball to bounce at mid-field. A well-positioned Douglas Guevara then manages a mid-air “kung-fu” kick-pass which caught the Magruder defense off-guard. The ball was sent up field where a running Martin Moreno picked it up, and managed to beat the defenders, including the goalie, and place the ball into the net. 2-1 Barons!

And this time no discussion by the refs – the goal stood and the Barons stormed the field to congratulate Moreno and celebrate the well-earned victory.

See video clip of the winning goal at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=77XUkIZfHDk>

A real “nail-biter” to say the least!

The Barons finished the 2010 JV season with 6 wins, 2 ties and 3 losses. Congratulations on a great season!

/Jeff Baker