



Match Report

Under 7's – Sunday 20th March 2016

SSA once again had another fantastic week, showing immense team spirit as they played against Pickwick. The players looked to showcase their skills and knowledge which has been gained through training in the past week.

Throughout the match SSA looked to disperse to create options for the man on the ball, which was performed particularly well by Archie. Archie's dynamic off the ball movement led to him having a few goal scoring opportunities, as he worked particularly hard to be an option for his team mates. SSA also portrayed very good combination play in this match, Jackson played punch passes to his team mates, leaving the ball playable, which also helped SSA, combine well. Furthermore, by punching his passing in to his teammates there was a much higher percentage of SSA being able to maintain possession to then launch attacks on the opposition. Jackson also used great body positioning whilst defending in 1 vs 1 situations, by being side on, on his toes and with his knees bent, obtaining the surf board position. This is fantastic as he either delayed, spoiled or regained the ball from the opponent. However, an area for improvement for SSA would be to scan more for players who are also pressing the ball, so they are able to give cover behind the press. Having said this, the intensity of SSA's press was extremely good and was performed very well by Sam. He was very determined to regain the ball at the quickest opportunity, therefore placed the opposition under maximal pressure, forcing them into making errors on numerous occasions. This is extremely pleasing, as getting pressure to the ball at the earliest opportunity and with high intensity is being addressed in training at the moment, so it is excellent to see players taking this on board. Something in which was also extremely pleasing was the positional understanding and maturity shown by the players, especially Freddie. His decision making throughout the game was impressive, when playing in a number of positions. For example, whilst playing in defence he went to take a corner, before reconsidering this option letting another player take the corner, to then return to defence to be able to block any counter attack opportunities.

Man of the match was awarded to Felix, after putting in an excellent performance. His 1 vs 1 beat a man moves were particularly effective, as well as being aesthetically pleasing. Moreover, during the match he produced a spectacular half volley, which struck the post. Although the shot did not produce a goal, it did show the outstanding technical execution Felix possesses whilst shooting.

He would have had to keep his head still to ensure that his body was balanced, in order to perform such a fantastic effort. Furthermore, it is vital that his chest and knee remain over the ball, as this would make sure that the ball is going to stay low and not go over the crossbar. Then combining these with the use of the arms for further balance, will ensure the greatest technical execution possible for the player.