

Sunday 14 December 2008

N&SYL U11 Division One, Caister 3 Waveney Youth A 5

Waveney Youth U11A travelled to Caister-on-Sea on Sunday to take on the league leaders and twice came back from a goal down to take all three points following an eight-goal thriller.

The visitors, playing against a steep slope, had early chances and should have been two-up before Caister took the lead from a swift left-wing break. Waveney came back and clever play by Gallant and Welton released Lambert for the equaliser. Shortly afterwards, Woods broke free down the left and Gallant swept home a second as Waveney defied the tortuous slope. Caister's tactics were clear and another swift break brought the leveller despite keeper Meades dashing from his line. He then made a miraculous save in pushing a header onto the bar, and stand-in skipper French brought a fine save out of the Caister keeper as the pace refused to slacken. Just before half-time Waveney were caught again as the home team edged ahead against the run-of-play.

Playing with the slope in the second-half, Waveney probed constantly as they tried to fashion a goal against a dogged defence. Despite the odd breakaway the visitors looked the more dangerous and with ten minutes left, good play by Welton helped to create a chance for Anderson whose intelligent left-foot finish was accurately placed to bring Waveney level again. With time running out, Lambert won a free-kick on the left which he fittingly volleyed home from Woods' expert delivery to deservedly put Waveney ahead.

The pace was incessant and Mahoney then gave Waveney a cushion with a right-foot shot which was helped on its way by a deflection. There was still time for Caister to threaten from a free-kick before referee Newby – who enjoyed a fine match – blew the whistle on a breathless encounter. Despite missing three regulars, Waveney played with pride and passion against tough opponents and every player contributed to a fully-deserved victory from a wonderful match.