

Sunday 15 February 2009

N&SYL U11 League Cup Semi-Final, Caister 1 Waveney Youth A 2

Waveney Youth U11A travelled to Caister-on-Sea on Sunday and came from behind to win a thrilling semi-final by the odd goal of three. Playing against the slope, Waveney were soon under pressure and conceded an early goal when failing to clear their lines, which allowed a home forward to loop a speculative strike over Meades who could only get a fingertip on the ball.

The visitors knew they were in a battle, and despite the disadvantage of the slope, Phillips held the line with determination and Mahoney, whose shot struck the goal stanchion and Woods with two efforts, came closest to levelling the scores. With the prospect of the slope in their favour after the break, Walpole and Butler defended resolutely to prevent Caister stretching their lead and the crossbar came to their rescue as Meades made another fingertip save.

Prompted by Anderson and Welton, Waveney pressed forward in the second-half but when Nichols – a revelation up front - hit the bar it seemed that a goal would not come, but the same player then seized on a knockdown from French's corner to curl a superb right-foot shot past the Caister keeper. French thought he had won it for the visitors with a great strike against the woodwork, and then Nichols poked an effort agonisingly wide of the post. Sissen and Bush were giving the Caister wingers no peace and with time running out Waveney again demonstrated their never-say-die spirit, when another penetrating goal-kick from Meades was flicked on to Woods, who slammed an unstoppable strike into the net for the winner.

After reaching the Suffolk Cup final last week, Waveney made it a cup double and now have an Emerald Park date to look forward to in the league cup.