

## BU10 – Team 1 – Game 2

So far, the second game of the season has dealt the most excitement for us. We won a closely contested game by a one goal margin of 4-3. No doubts the boys were in anticipation of this game. After all, we were playing Team 5; it's the team that we practice with on a regular basis.

The game was no more than 30 seconds old when Team 5 struck for the first goal. The boys were caught off guard. However, you have to give these boys credit. They did not wilt. They came right back. The first goal was an exciting one as two of our most exciting forwards rushed the goal. Jaydon and Andrew eluded the opposing defense. Jaydon took the first shot which bounced off the post. Andrew was right there to pick up the rebound and we were tied 1-1.

Team 5 was attacking again and they would have had another goal if not for the superb foot save from Arman; he stuck out his right foot in a great demonstration of natural reflex. Arman followed up his great plays in goal with some feisty plays on forward which resulted in our second goal. He gave us a 2-1 lead. Team 5 would tie it up shortly, but our players continued the pressure in the offensive zone. The pressure forced a penalty shot as one of the opposing players touched the ball in the goal area. Andrew took the shot and he made it look easy for a 3-2 lead. We learned a valuable lesson with this play....apply the pressure and the other team will make a mistake.

The boys followed up the 3rd goal with a fourth one from Michael Armes. Michael had moved the ball up to the goal area. It scooted free but Eric was right there to tap it back to Michael, who made no mistake in depositing the ball into the goal.

With a 4-2 lead, it was time to rely on our excellent defense to protect that lead. Our defense had been superb throughout the game. Rahul and Christopher had consistently come up with the ball in battles with the opposing forwards. Both of them showed great finesse in carrying the ball up the side for exceptional finishing passes to the forwards. Aaron and Amar gave the defense some added dimension in making heads-up plays in getting the ball out of our zone with some good strong kicks. The defense was bolstered by Aron, Andrew and Michael De Pinto who showed great speed in getting back into our zone to help out with the defensive work. These boys appeared out of nowhere to get the ball out of our zone.

Up 4-2, it was critical for us to protect the lead going into the final 8 minutes. Anthony volunteered to play sweeper on the last shift. This gave us an additional defenseman. With Amar already making game saving stops, he was asked to continue as goalie. He stopped a couple of hard shots. One did get buy to make the score 4-3. At this point, we made one final change. Michael De Pinto was subbed in as a defensive forward. He's our small guy with the great leg work and ball control. With Michael in the line-up, we took possession of the ball for most of the remainder of the game. It was a tense finish, but we prevailed for the second victory of this young season.

It was a solid team effort. The goalies (Arman, Anthony, Aron and Amar) made the key and critical saves. Our defense (Christopher, Rahul, Amar, Aron, Aaron) played their position well and moved the ball out quickly. The midfields (Jaydon, Michael Armes, Michael DePinto, Andrew) carried the ball well and had the smarts to get back to help the defense. Our forwards (Eric, Anthony, Aron, Arman, Amar) applied the right pressures to force turn over and goals.

Great game, Boys!!!

Ken Chow