

YOUTH FOOTBALL

Minehead under-11's travelled to play Tone last Saturday September 19th and after a very close and well contested match they lost out by the odd goal in five.

Tone got off to the perfect start by scoring inside the opening couple of minutes when a good low shot gave Joe Ferris no chance to save it. Minehead hit back with Jack Stubbs and Jamie Hobbs combining nicely down the right to set up Josh Ruston but his shot hit the post and flew away for a goal kick. But moments later Ruston seized on to a poor goal kick and quickly shot it back into the net for the equaliser. Jack Delbridge and Ben Willmets puit together a nice move down the left which ended with Karl Middleton-Smith just screwing the ball past the post. However it was the powerful midfielder who put his side ahead when he collected a rebound from a corner and fired the ball into the roof of the net from a tight angle. Play continued to be very even with both sides finding it difficult to cope with the full sized adult pitch.

In the second half Minehead were the better side and yet they conceded two goals without managed a reply. Ruston, playing a lone striker's role, battled hard against at least two opponents and managed to get in several shots but the Tone keeper, who had a very good match, was equal to them. Unfortunately for Minehead an error by keeper Ferris when he handled the ball outside his area led to Tone converting the free kick and coming right back into the game. Nevertheless it was Minehead who created most of the chances one of which, set up by the best piece of football all morning by Gibson, Ronan and Willmets gave Ruston a glorious chance but he somehow pulled his shot wide from only a few yards out. That was to cost Minehead dearly. After Ferris hade pulled off a super diving save to keep his goal in tact Tone snatched a goal rather against the run of play when one of their strikers placed a lovely shot into the corner of the net from the edge of the penalty area leaving Ferris helpless. Minehead, to their credit, strove hard for an equaliser. Shots from Ruston Dan Boulton, Ronan and Middleton-Smith were all just wide or saved by the keeper. A Tone defender almost gave away an own goal but the home defenders stuck to their task and managed to keep Minehead out to claim a very hard won victory.

Team: Joe Ferris, Jack Stubbs, Owen Thresher, Dan Boulton, Jordan Baker,
Jack Delbridge, Jamie Hobbs, Karl Middleton-Smith, Nial Gibson, Matt Ronan,
Alistair Madgewick, Josh Ruston, Ben Willmets.