Match report #6

Shannonside U12 Boys (Blue team) vs. Shountrade Sat 06/01/24 @ 10:30, League Div3 game

A dry, sunny but cold morning on Saturday as we welcomed Shountrade for our 5th league game of the season.
Unbelievable start as the lads raced into a 3-0 lead within the 1st 12 minutes with Freddie Lewis scoring 2 and Sam Lewis adding another. They were full of running, energy and most pleasing was the interchange of passing between the forward players. Freddie completed his hattrick on 22 minutes and Sam deservedly got his second of the game 3 minutes later. Our "fox in the box" Oisin Kelly was the focal point up front and it was Oisin who scored our 6th, pouncing on a loose ball in the box. Oisin plays the centre forward role so well, always keeping central and keeping the CB's busy. Michael Mullane, our captain for the day, was enjoying his best game of the season, assisting 3 of our goals and his lightning feet and dribbling skills causing the Shountrade defence all sort of problems throughout. It is Michaels decision making of when to play the pass and when to wait for the runners is most impressive, twice playing fabulous through balls to the ever running Josh O Mahoney from full back. Josh showed tremendous energy throughout up and down the right and equally impressive is his quick decision making on corners and throw ins. Sean Cribbin controlled the centre of midfield with some great passes long, short and great vision to continuously switch play and was always there to cover the danger and counter attack. As usual, our GK Mark Barry and Centre Back pairing of Will O Donnell and Charlie Frawley were immense, not leaving the Shountrade attack any clear cut chances on goal. When called upon, Mark was always there to make the save and always willing to play the ball out from the back. Charlie yet again for the 3rd match in a row, never lost a tackle in the entire match! Tommo Kearns and Colm O Sullivan as always brought a calmness to our play bringing renewed energy and work rate and great positional awareness. Colm, so at home in the centre of the pitch is always alert to danger and covers any of the forward runs of the attackers. Tommo is full of direct running and with his left foot is always a threat from long distance shots and is always available top take the ball under pressure.

It really was a game of 2 halves, as we made many positional changes for the 2nd half, with Sam and Freddie our new CB's and Charlie and Will moved into a more attacking role. Will was having his best game of the season as he drove forward from midfield with a number of driving runs and showing impressive dribbling skills and was unlucky not to score. Shountrade were missing a number of players on the day and it disrupted their play, but nevertheless they continued to play the ball from the back at every opportunity and deservedly pulled two goals back as the game finished 6-2.

Thanks to Shannonside Ultra supporters group for their continued support, to E. Noonan for refereeing and to Pat Doody and Shountrade for travelling. Team: Mark Barry, Charlie Frawley, Will O Donnell, Josh O Mahoney, Freddie Lewis, Sean Cribbin, Sam Lewis, Michael Mullane (C), Sean Cribbin, Oisin Kelly, Colm O Sullivan, Thomas Kearns. Scorers: Freddie Lewis x3, Sam Lewis x2, Oisin Kelly.