

Matchday Event & Reflection



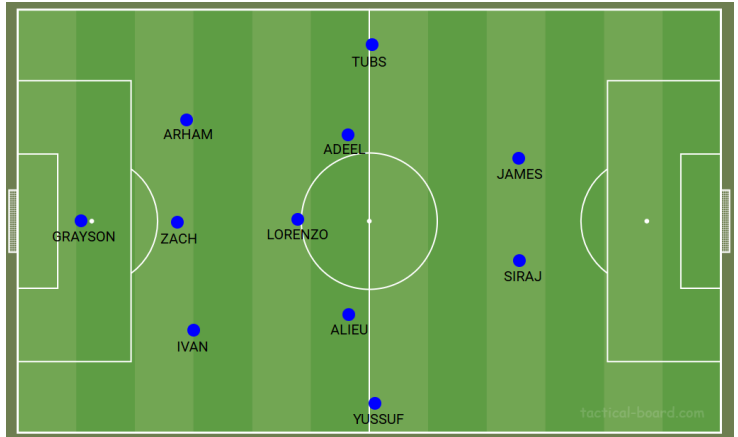
1. Matchday Information

- Pre Season Friendly
- Starz FC
- Friendly
- Tividale FC (Away)
- 17/8/25 – 11:00 kick off
- Warm Weather, Good Conditions
- 15/18 Available.

- HT 0-0 FT 2-1

Goals: James x1

Assit: Adeel



2. Pre-Match Objectives

A. Team Tactical Objectives

1. Be compact out of possession
2. In Possession Wing Back stretch the pitch and offer wide options early
3. Be disciplined in your shape

B. Unit Objectives

Defensive Unit:

- Communicate often and early. Zach lead on that.

Midfield Unit:

- Wide player out of possession be reactive. CDM be disciplined in your position and in possession CM's look to support.

Attacking Unit:

- Pressure their back line especially if they play out from the back

C. Individual Player Objectives

1. Lorenzo – Be disciplined in your positioning and occupy that space between. Be the link.
2. James – Consider dropping deep to pull out one of their CBs
3. Grayson – Look to play quickly if possible from you

3. Matchday Actions

A. Pre-Match - Dynamic movement stretch which is player led – same as training. Socially good for them gets them moving. Led by James. Went well

- Team talk was focused around this is pre season, its working on and developing us in our new shape and learning our roles effectively before the season starts. Starz are a team that gained promotion from our league – I wanted challenging friendlies.

B. In-Game Coaching

I always try and keep my behavior consistent on the touchline. I use positive reinforcement with my players and give concise clear information. I won't give information when they are in possession as they need to make that decision themselves but may offer afterwards things like "can we start to make decision earlier so we don't get caught in possession" or "I loved that idea Yussuf but are there any other areas of the pitch we can look to play into?" If the ball has gone out following an attack I may remind them to "think of their shape, starting position and responsibilities" They were very physical so everytime we had success against this I reinforced it. Everytime we moved the ball well and combined effectively I reinforced this so they didn't get drawn into a physical battle all the time.

C. Half Time: 0-0. Reinforced that the clever movement and combination play in midfield and stick to playing football. If they are going direct into their Striker for him to hold the ball up, where is safe to let him have it? Just don't let him turn, Delay him. I had asked James to start dropping into the midfield role giving us a 3-5-1-1 shape and a nice diamond in Midfield.

D. Substitutions & Rationale

- Sub 1: Siraj for Josh. Siraj not offering support for attacking partner and struggling with the physicality of the opposition again.

- Sub 2: Logan for Yussuf. Yussuf looked exhausted and wasn't able to advance as well as he had been

- Sub 3: Tyler for Adeel. Again, Fatigue and needed to get minutes into Tyler.

- Sub 4: Jude for Grayson – Jude had expressed an interest in being second choice keeper, gave me chance to look at him..

4. Match Summary (Key Events Linked to Objectives)

- Opponent behaviors noticed: Physical and strong team. Direct football Big Striker up front who looks to hold the ball up and link with their midfield
- Patterns in our play: some brilliant link up work with Alieu, again.
- Successes related to objectives: James Dropping deeper provided space in the area the CB had vacated. Alie went running through and go bought down for a penalty for us.
- Challenges related to objectives: They rarely played from the back meaning we couldn't pressure back line.
- Key moments affecting our tactical plan: Exposure in Wide Areas effected out compactness out of possession.

5. Post-Match Reflection

A. What went well?

- Central Midfield combinations and overload.
- Wide support in possession
- The movement of James between their lines worked really well. This is a consideration for going forward and perhaps to start in a 3-5-1-1

B. What didn't go well?

- Wide player out of possession support
- "bullied" by other players
- CDM awareness to drop in and support if outside CB slides across – Zach possibly to do this role.

C. Why did these things happen?

- CDM needs coaching more on this
- Wide players need to understand their importance of recovery runs out of possession
- Some players lacking physically

D. What will I change next time?

- If Callum back, Zach into that CDM role

6. Learning Points (Coach Development)

- More education is required on their individual roles within the unit. Particularly Wide and CDM
- Correct players for roles. Down to development plans and training observations

7. Next Steps (Action Plan)

A. For the Team

- Work on Cohesion between back 3 and CDM
- Highlight the roles of the wide players in and out of possession

B. For Individual Players

- All wide players highlight importance of out of possession duties so not to leave our wide areas exposed
- CDM – the importance of dropping in to support when back 3 have to shuffle. Cover and Balance

C. For Me as a Coach

- Rehearse half time messages for role specific i.e “Yussuf – remember the importance of helping the defensive unit out of possession by also offering wide early as an out ball”