

HAMPSHIRE SUNDAY TROPHY FINAL

Sunday 22nd May 2022

at Havant & Waterlooville FC

FC HAJDUK 3 REPUBLIC OF CHINEHAM 4

FC Hajduk's hopes of finishing a remarkable season with a fourth trophy were dashed when Republic of Chineham just got the better of them 4-3 in the HAMPSHIRE SUNDAY TROPHY FINAL at Havant.

Apart from the opening minutes of each half, which were disastrous for the Bournemouth side, Hajduk were more than a match for the hundred per cent Basingstoke Sunday League champions.

FC Hajduk found themselves a goal down in the very first minute after Howard Nhemachena was penalised for a challenge out near the corner flag and Finley Hall's free kick to the near post was converted by **LUKE RICHARDSON**.

Hajduk were reeling and they found themselves two goals in arrears after just five minutes when a shot from Aaron Fitzpatrick struck the post and rebounded into the centre of the danger area where **PAUL COVENTRY** took a touch before drilling it into the net.

Jake Tanner went close for Chineham in the tenth minute following a free kick into the Hajduk penalty area before the Bournemouth side began to play their way back into the game.

Jack Myers was tripped right on the edge of the penalty area as he threatened to weave his way through in the 14th minute but Lewis Miles' free kick cannoned high into the air off the defensive wall.

Andy Partridge, Adam Baxter, and Lewis Sainval combined in an excellent move three minutes later, getting the ball up to Jack Myers who cut in from the left to drill a low shot which the Chineham 'keeper had to get down quickly to save at the foot of the post.

Hajduk were dominating possession and Lewis Sainval set up Henry Hodge in the 21st minute for a shot which Chineham stopper Torren Kirrage could only push away towards the corner flag. Jack Myers was first to the ball and his effort from an acute angle was scrambled behind for a corner.

The Chineham goalkeeper was called upon to make another good save in the 25th minute when he dived to turn a blistering effort from Andy Partridge behind for a corner. Lewis Miles took the corner from out on the right towards the far post where Hajduk central defender **JAMIE PICKETT** was able to slam it into the roof of the net.

Andy Partridge stung the 'keeper's fingers with another long range effort in the 27th minute and, three minutes later, when Jack Myers' cross from the left was headed clear, Hajduk right back Eddie Myers met it first time and his effort from well outside the penalty area flew past the far post.

Hajduk continued to press throughout the remainder of the first half with Chineham defending resolutely. The half came to a close with Jack Myers almost getting on the end of a cross to the far post from Lewis Sainval.

Andy Partridge found Adam Baxter in the Chineham penalty area immediately after the interval with a superb pass but Torren Kirrage was quickly off his line to foil the Hajduk attacker.

At the other end Hajduk 'keeper Matt Cleere just did enough to force Luke Richardson to prod the ball wide but, two minutes into the second half, there was a hammer blow for Hajduk when Chineham restored their two goal advantage.

Chineham broke quickly out of their own half and a superb diagonal ball found **FINLEY HALL** running through on the left and he clipped a perfectly flighted lob over Matt Cleere and into the back of the net.

Hajduk began to dominate possession as they had in the first half but they suffered another setback in the 58th minute when **PAUL COVENTRY** put Chineham 4-1 ahead, steering a low shot just inside the post from the edge of the penalty area.

The Chineham striker had an opportunity to complete his hat-trick three minutes later with another effort from the edge of the box, but on this occasion the ball went wide of the post.

Chineham's Charlie Manning received a yellow card in the 65th minute for bringing down Hajduk substitute Alex Fernandez. Lewis Miles' resultant free kick to the far post was scrambled away by the Chineham goalkeeper who was under pressure from Hajduk central defenders Jamie Pickett and Howard Nhemachena.

ADAM BAXTER was flattened inside the Chineham penalty area in the 67th minute resulting in the award of a penalty and the Hajduk striker picked himself up to slot the spot kick under the diving Torren Kirrage.

A great ball into the Chineham penalty area in the 81st minute was brought under control by Lewis Sainval but his shot was blocked by a perfectly timed challenge by Charlie Manning when the Hajduk striker looked certain to score.

There was a frantic scramble in the Chineham penalty area before play switched to the other end where Harry Rudge put a curling 20 yard effort just over the bar in the 85th minute.

Matt Cleere made a brilliant save in the 89th minute to keep out an effort from Finley Hall before Hajduk made it 4-3 in stoppage time. Adam Baxter's cross from the right went beyond the 'keeper towards the far post where substitute **ELLIOTT DAWSON** was racing in to slam it home.

Hajduk threw everything at it in stoppage time to try to get the goal they needed to force penalties. An Alex Fernandez effort from outside the penalty area had the 'keeper scrambling to keep it out then an Adam Baxter cross from the right resulted in another desperate goalmouth scramble before Chineham managed to get the ball away.

There was one last effort from Hajduk with a long ball into the danger area from Lewis Miles creating a chance for Alex Fernandez that brought a diving save from Torren Kirrage.

Republic of Chineham's Finley Hall was chosen for the Man of the Match award.

FC Hajduk : Matt Cleere, Eddie Myers, Jamie Pickett, Howard Nhemachena, Mac Raney (Mitch Cannings 83 mins), Andy Partridge (Alex Fernandez 64 mins), Lewis Miles, Adam Baxter, Jack Myers (Elliott Dawson 68 mins), Henry Hodge, Lewis Sainval.

Unused substitutes : Jared Mugan and Jimmy Cooper

Republic of Chineham : Torren Kirrage, Ali Brown, Stuart Austen, Charlie Manning, Jake Tanner, Connor Dawber, Wayne Finn (Harry Rudge 45 mins), Finley Hall, Paul Coventry, Luke Richardson (George Jones 78 mins), Aaron Fitzpatrick (Adam Vine 78 mins).

Unused substitutes : James Brownlee and Jack Nicholson.