

M.A. HART IN-EXCESS CUP FINAL

Thursday 7th April 2022

at Hurn Bridge

FC HAJDUK

2

TGC

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Jamie Pickett and Howard Nhemachena were the heroes at both ends of the pitch in FC Hajduk's M.A. HART IN-EXCESS CUP FINAL victory over Sunday Division Two championship rivals TGC. The two central defenders scored the first half goals in Hajduk's 2-1 success and they were a tower of strength at the other end to prevent TGC getting on terms.

Hajduk started well and TGC were defending a succession of corners in the fourth minute. A Jack Kinge-Phillips corner from the right was punched away to the edge of his penalty area by TGC 'keeper Jack Robertson where Andy Partridge met it first time. His shot cannoned off Jamie Wilkinson and against the crossbar. The rebound went to Adam Baxter who was closed down quickly by James Fraser at the expense of another corner.

The resultant corner presented Baxter with another opportunity to get in a shot which got past Robertson but was blocked by Fraser

Hajduk were appealing for a free kick when Adam Baxter went sprawling in the 12th minute but TGC broke quickly and Harry Bunce was put clean through only to see the flag go up for offside.

Hajduk looked certain to score midway through the first half when a brilliant cross from out on the left by Jack Kinge-Phillips found Lewis Sainval right in front of the goal. Jack Robertson was beaten all ends up by Sainval's close range header but the ball was directed downwards and it bounced up and over the TGC crossbar.

A throw in from Hajduk's right flank in the 29th minute resulted in an overhead kick by Lewis Sainval which was tipped over the bar by Jack Robertson for a corner. Hajduk continued to threaten and Jack Robertson made a great double save to deny Adam Baxter at the expense of yet another corner.

There was to be no reprieve for TGC this time though as Jack Kinge-Phillips' delivery from the left to the near post was headed home by central defender **JAMIE PICKETT** to give Hajduk a 30th minute lead.

Jack Kinge-Phillips was the provider again when Hajduk doubled their lead eight minutes later. This time it was a free kick from out on the right to the far post where Hajduk's other central defender **HOWARD NHEMACHENA** steered his header in off the inside of the upright.

TGC got themselves right back in the game in the one minute added on at the end of the first half, halving the deficit with a well worked goal. Ethan Maddocks weaved his way past a number of opponents in midfield before playing the ball to Joel Bevan. The TGC front man threaded it through to **JAMIE WILKINSON** who calmly sidestepped a challenge before slotting the ball home.

Hajduk full back Eddie Myers wriggled past three defenders early in the second half but TGC 'keeper Jack Robertson got down well to smother his shot while, at the other end, Rhys Newman chased after a ball over the top on the hour but Hajduk 'keeper Matt Cleere raced a long way out of his penalty area to kick the ball away.

The second half became a rather messy affair with too many untidy challenges resulting in a number of yellow cards.

TGC's Jamie Wilkinson did well under pressure to get in a shot from the edge of the penalty area in the 72nd minute but Matt Cleere was quickly down to hold it at the second attempt.

Cleere was called upon to make two saves in quick succession four minutes later, first coming out to deny substitute Ben Atiako-Hall and then, as the ball was played back into the goal mouth, the Hajduk 'keeper was quickly back to get Harry Bunce's header over the bar.

TGC continued to press but Jamie Pickett was resolute in the heart of the Hajduk defence, ably supported by his central defensive partner Howard Nhemachena.

A reckless challenge on Lewis Sainval outside the TGC penalty area in stoppage time gave Hajduk the opportunity to put the result beyond doubt but Jack Kinge-Phillips's free kick was just too high.

FC Hajduk central defender **Jamie Pickett** was chosen for the **Man of the Match** award by BHFL President Mike Fowler





FC Hajduk : Matt Cleere, Eddie Myers, Howard Nhemachena, Jamie Pickett, Alex Fernandez (Jack Myers 67 mins), Jack Kinge-Phillips, Andy Partridge, Adam Baxter (Macaulay Raney 80mins), Henry Hodge (Callum Charlton 63 mins), Rafael Santos, Lewis Sainval.

Unused substitutes : Eliot Trapnell and Jared Mugan.



TGC : Jack Robertson, James Fraser, Jack Jeffs, Louis Parkin, Lewis Maguire, Ethan Maddocks, Jamie Wilkinson, Harry Bunce, Rhys Newman (Ben Atiako-Hall 63 mins), Joel Bevan (Liam Carpenter 84 mins), Josh Saul (Sam Jackson 65 mins).

Unused substitutes : Lewis Baldwin and James Restall