

Red Devils First Trial Games

Redlands United's Red Devil Premier League side got their pre-season commitments up and running last Saturday with their first trial game against Premier Division 1 side Slacks Creek at the Cleveland Showgrounds. In hot and sultry conditions it didn't take long for the Red Devils to create scoring opportunities as after only 2 minutes Graham Fyfe rose above the Creek defenders to head the ball just over the bar. This seemed to set the scene for the game as the Red Devils dominated possession during the opening twenty minutes with some crisp free flowing ball movement.

The Slacks Creek keeper kept his side in the contest producing top class saves to deny Fyfe (twice), Jesse Lindemann, Ramone Close (twice) and Scott Bow, before Lindemann scored the first goal for 2010, to put Redlands ahead after 28 minutes after fine lead up work by Scott Bow. Despite dominating possession the Red Devils couldn't afford to switch off as Slacks Creek with Asa Harrington leading from up front and some of their recruits from QSL side, Logan United, proved to be dangerous when given the chance. They defended stoutly to continually frustrate the home side and then deservedly equalized in the 41st minute.

The pace of the game seem to slow in the second half as Redlands continued to dominate the play. Close was rewarded for a fine display up front for Redlands with a brace of goals in the 53rd and 62nd minutes. Lindemann scored his second on the hour mark. Scrambling defence and a top goal keeping display denied the home side from going further ahead and the game came to an end with a 4-1 score line. The line up of the Redlands side was O'Brien, Paolino, Bridge, Draper, Firth, Homer, Fyfe, Seib, Bow, Close, Lindemann, Woolley, Kallis.

Following the game Redlands Coach Peter Bannon commented, "It was a typical first hit out and I'm sure those comments would be repeated by nearly all coaches across Brisbane after this weekends games. It was a decent hit out against a quality opposition, which is what we need at this stage of our preparations. Both sides were looking at new players and they contributed to an entertaining game. There were plenty of good things to take away, as well as plenty of things that will need polishing up and that's what these games are all about. We still have a quite a number of players to return and hopefully they will be on the park in the next few weeks".

The Redlands United Premier Reserves came away with a 1-0 win but the score line didn't reflect the state of play with the Red Devils unable to convert the large number of opportunities created. Redlands Premier Youth side was on the wrong side of the ledger against the Queensland Academy of Sport in their first hit out of the season, but produced enough to show coach Peter White they are not too far off the pace.

The next trial game is Saturday evening at John Fredericks Park Capalaba against local rivals the Capalaba Bulldogs. The Premier Reserves start proceedings off at 5pm and the Premier League clash at 7pm.