

Game Report / Game Friday

January 29, 2020

Congratulations to the Eagles on their 1-0 victory against a very strong Hausner team!

Today we saw the team that is most likely our strongest competitor - a team with a solid core of experienced players who are, on average, bigger and faster than us. They are strong dribblers and passers who can set up a quick counter attack and shift pressure from one side to the other, which we felt repeatedly through most of today's game and will undoubtedly feel if we meet Hausner again in the playoffs.

Nevertheless, GISSV kept up its defense when it mattered most. Hauke R. was there time and time again with speed, strength and good decisions when Hausner put on the pressure. And when Hausner's shots were on goal, Kai F. kept focus and placed himself well to keep the ball out of the net. Philipp W. kept up constant intensity and helped create opportunities to bring the ball through midfield. Although we struggled to get the ball through Hausner's back four much of the game, the team didn't give up and began seeing things open up in the last fifteen minutes of the game. Anton S.-A. began seeing more action on offense and pulled some of the defense's attention to his side of the field. But it was on a midfield breakaway by Jayden P. that we saw the clear possibility of the game's first goal. From the sidelines, we saw Jayden control a through ball without taking off its momentum and immediately accelerate past the defenders towards goal. In three touches he was inside the penalty area and was positioned for an easy goal when he was tripped by a defender from behind - a clear foul. The referee pointed to the penalty kick mark and Jayden took the kick... top left corner... GOOOOOOAAAALLLLLLLLLL!!!

With five minutes left, GISSV kept the fire up while Hausner's otherwise controlled play became hectic with urgency. The game ended 1-0 for GISSV.

As we look forward to Friday's game versus Pacific Bay in Pacifica, our objective is to develop more consistent play action to transition through the midfield and into shooting range. Those transitions are not always simply pushing the ball predictably forward - we need to think about diagonal through balls, playing the wings, shifting horizontally across the field, and sometimes passing back to draw the defenders out of position. It takes communication, teamwork, and creativity. AND FINALLY: TAKE THE SHOTS when the opportunities are there!

On Friday, students remain in class until 1:50. We depart at 2:00. Big thank you in advance to our drivers!!!

GO EAGLES!!!

Mr Rolufs