



Aliso Niguel High School Soccer Program
WOLVERINES



November 30, 2009

Boys Varsity
Aliso Niguel 3 vs. Brea Olinda 2

Game 2 of the preseason followed a week of lying around watching football and eating turkey and it showed for the first few minutes! The team looked a little out of gear from the kickoff and Brea Olinda took advantage with a shot taken from just outside the 18 yard box labeled for the top corner that the keeper JUST finger tipped away!

Brendon Antonissen seemed to take Brea Olinda's initial attacks personally, wrestling one of their players to the ground contesting the ball and climbing over another player, for which he was finally rewarded with a yellow card. This was followed in short order by another yellow, this time awarded to Cole Brown for pulling a shirt. The coaches were a little incensed at what seemed to be perhaps too much attention being paid to Aliso Niguel by the referee, but Cole's yellow was a little too obvious to be ignored.

Velizar Dimov had a full head of steam from the start and the team always looks to take advantage of his trademark cartwheel throw-ins, that drop the ball deep into enemy territory like a mortar round! Every time his throws seem to reach the 6 yard box and it is only a matter of time before our strikers start getting on the end of them!

Velizar had to be taken out of the game after 15 minutes with a thigh contusion. He made a great run down the right JUST outside the penalty area, but was scythed down by the defense before he could make the turn toward goal. Given that the tackled was more than a little physical, it surprisingly resulted in no card being issued...

Things continued to be physical, with Ho Jae Jang being taken down by what appeared to be a leg up, studs up challenge followed by Eric Hunter narrowly avoiding a card for pulling down a Brea Olinda player himself.

Aliso Niguel came alive later in the half, as all the cobwebs were worked out. Repeated attacks down the left were finally rewarded by a corner. Chris Olmeda's ball arched over the 6 yard box and after some desperate attempts by Aliso Niguel the ball was cleared by Brea Olinda, but only as far as Ho Jae, who drilled a bullet straight at Brea Olinda's keeper. It was such a hard shot that the keeper spilled it, right in front of Ramin Armindari - BIG MISTAKE. Goal Aliso!!

No sooner had Brea Olinda kicked off, than Aliso Niguel swung onto the attack again. A ball played deep to the right behind the Brea Olinda defense was mishandled by the unfortunate defender and Ramin pounced, drilling the ball across the keeper for his second goal in what seemed as many minutes!

Brea Olinda was really on the back foot now, with Aliso Niguel pouring it on. Ho Jae Jang, with one assist to his credit, decided he might as have a go himself from a free kick, but his shot was a little more optimistic than accurate.

Again and again Aliso Niguel attacked. A long, probing ball brought the two Brea Olinda defenders together with disastrous results. Instead of supporting each other and clearing the ball, they proceeded to collide and take each other out of the play leaving the ball just laying there for- Ramin!

It must have looked like a beach ball to him, with 'hat trick' written all over it. Ramin jumped on the loose ball and played it beautifully across goal with his left foot, the shot labeled for the far corner- a great shot that was only denied by a better save from the keeper, who's fingertips turned it around the right post for a corner.

The resulting corner kick careened out to Brady Allen who labeled a cannon shot for the net, but was denied by a defender who blocked it- he is probably still icing the bruise.

The second half began with Brea Olinda attacking with renewed determination, their striker Ryan Poore rocketing a shot from the right that was denied by the Aliso Niguel keeper.

At the other end, an Aliso Niguel throw-in fell to Chris Olmeda who's cracking shot was spilled by the Brea Olinda keeper again in front of Armindari, who this time was unable to convert. Aliso was awarded another free kick in short order that was drilled in low to the left. The resulting deflection was shot just wide of the left post.

Another foul, this time from Brea Olinda's Matt Spies, produced a free kick for Aliso Niguel 40 yard from goal. The curving pass only just eluded the head of Tyler Troup, one of the new additions to the team from last year's Frosh/Soph team.

With 19 minutes to go, the Wildcats attacked down Aliso Niguel's left flank. Brea Olinda's Ryan Poore let rip a blistering shot that eluded the keeper but rang off the post! On the counterattack, Christopher Olmeda sent Ramin in on the keeper. The goalie somehow saved the chip shot but the deflection rolled to the right where Ryan Perez said 'thank you very much' and buried it into the far corner. Aliso Niguel's third!

Aliso Niguel, now at full song, wanted more and just kept coming. Olmeda and Armindari teamed up again to send a nicely weighted ball through to Perez who, seeing his chance for a second, over hit the ball to the right.

Brea Olinda launched another counter attack, but the resulting shot, while deflected, was cleared off the line by Brady Allen.

Back came Aliso Niguel, with Greg Devlin centering a ball to Tyler, who turned a beautiful header on net, low to the right, which just happened to be where the desperate keeper was falling. Close!

Following another Brea Olinda attack that was finished by an acrobatic shot by the striker, Aliso Niguel's Ho Jae Jang, who had stamped his command on the game early on, led the breakout. Tyler Troup, seeing the chance, turned and raced through the middle, riding the shoulder of the defender in anticipation of a through ball that would send him in alone on the keeper- Brea Olinda was completely on the back foot. Roaring through Brea Olinda's midfield, Jang took just a little too heavy a touch on the ball. Seeing his chance, with the ball a mere afterthought the Brea Olinda defender cut Ho Jae down like so much summer wheat, in a very cynical challenge. Why that did not warrant a card, you would have to ask the officials...

Aliso Niguel's final attack was initiated by Troup with a nice pass to Adam Tedder who made a neat cross to Greg Devlin, but the ball sailed wide of the net.

Aliso Niguel kept up the pressure for the full 90 and while Brea Olinda managed to peg one back, the game was never in doubt after the first Aliso Niguel goal. While it might be a bit early to judge the season on just two preseason games, the boys are playing well and as they get to know each other's style and idiosyncrasies, I think we are in for an entertaining season! See you at the Aliso Cup!!