

Aurora sides blanked in second week of League 1 play



By Jake Courtepatte

A tough second week in the semi-pro League 1 has the Aurora United FC looking for answers, goals, and a first win.

Both the men's and women's sides were shut out over the weekend, the men falling to the North Toronto Nitros 5 ? 0 and the women spoiled in their home opener 2 ? 0 by Durham United FA.

The women were the first to hit the field, playing host to the 2015 League 1 champion Durham on Saturday. Both goals against were scored by Laura Gosse, the first a nice header off a cross just before the 20' mark, followed by a clincher with fifteen minutes left in play.

?There were a few individual mistakes ? one set piece and one at the end of the game,? said Aurora head coach Ramin Mohammadi. ?We had a short bench, but overall the girls gave one hundred and twenty per cent and I'm very happy. We need a little time to come back and show what we have.?

Aurora now holds a 0-1-1 record, after drawing with Vaughan in week one. They host North Mississauga SC this Saturday at Sheppard's Bush Turf, with kickoff set for 4 p.m.

On the men's side, the Nitros struck twice in the first 25 minutes of play at the University of Toronto's Varsity Stadium and never looked back.

Aurora's chances of a comeback were greatly diminished before the game was a half an hour old, when captain Jonathan Parolini was shown a red card to leave his side down a man for the remainder of the match.

?It's difficult because the plans you come into the game with are suddenly changed,? said Aurora coach Arman Mohammadi. ?The way you want to play is all changed, you've got to make some personnel changes.?

?Clearly it was a negative, although it wasn't until after the red card occurred that our team actually settled down and started to pass the ball around. Unfortunately we couldn't start the game in that manner a little bit earlier. Sometimes it takes that to shock the team into having to work a little bit harder. Hopefully all the players will learn from that and we won't have such early disciplinary actions.?

A frustrated Aurora side took three more yellow cards in the match, while the Nitros notched goals at the 39', 50', and 84' mark to close out the match.

Now with a record of 0 ? 3 in League 1 play, Aurora will be searching for their first win on Monday when they continue their road swing against the Kingston Clippers.

In the meantime, the team hosts the Sanjaxx Lions at Sheppard's Bush Turf on Tuesday in the opening match of the League 1 Cup, a single-game knockout tournament that continues until the end of July.

?We've got a quick turnaround, so it's going to be very difficult,? said Mohammadi. ?I think the boys need to get this completely out of their head and just move forward and start over again.?