

Curran states case for defence ahead of Blaze visit

Fife Flyers' interim coach, Johnny Curran, believes his men defended well at Glasgow Clan on Hogmanay and will look for a repeat when the Kirkcaldy club entertain Coventry Blaze on Saturday (19.15).

His men only allowed five goals to enter the net despite being heavily outshot at Braehead and part of the reason for that was the form of Latvian-born netminder, Janis Voris.

The 24-year-old, who has provided back-up, to club No 1, Shane Owen, all season, featuring in only a handful of games, was hit by a barrage of shots, particularly in the third session.

In all, Voris faced 51 shots in the 60 minutes while his counterpart, Lucas Brine, had to deal with 14.

Curran, who is seeking a lift as he charts the way forward for the Elite League strugglers, is trying to grab positives out of games, even in defeat, and, reflecting on their last outing, he added: "There is a lot to grab out of there."

He asked the guys to produce "a good push back" from Monday's heavy 8-3 defeat against Clan at Kirkcaldy and he said they "answered the bell".

The Canadian added: "We had a good first 40 again and a couple of chances could have gone our way with a little more volume.

“We are not getting the bounces right now as we are not creating enough offensive chances but, as far as defending, we did a lot of it and we did it well.

“A couple of bounces at the end stretches the score out a bit, but, overall, I’m happy with the performance.”

Corey Neilson, Clan’s head coach, also praised Voris but felt Clan controlled the game. He conceded that Fife defended well in the first session and that meant his men did not get as many chances as they had in the victory at Kirkcaldy.

PICTURE: Flyers in action at Braehead against Clan captured by **Al Goold** and courtesy of the Elite League