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Fukushima United were looking to bounce back from their last game defeat against Ehime FC. Despite losing their last game 2-1 at home, Fukushima United found themselves in 6th place in the J2 League table, only 4 points behind Ehime in 3rd.

A win for Fukushima would see them leapfrog Ehime and move into a playoff spot. However, overcoming Ehime on their home turf would be no easy task. Ehime boasted one of the best home records in the league and had only lost 1 game at the Matsuya Stadium all season long. Fukushima knew they would have to be at their very best if they wanted to take anything from this game. Their coach made 2 changes from the last match, bringing in fresh legs in midfield and up front. Ehime also made a couple switches, looking to exploit Fukushima in wide areas with pacey attackers.

The game started at a frantic pace, with both sides looking to seize the initiative early. Fukushima pressed high and forced Ehime into mistakes in their defensive third. This led to a couple of half chances but nothing clear cut in the opening 20 minutes. Ehime then began to grow into the game, controlling possession through their talented midfield trio. Continued pressure paid off for Ehime in the 30th minute. A sloppy pass out from the back was intercepted and played through for the striker, who rounded the goalkeeper and tapped into an empty net 龘. Fukushima were behind and faced an uphill task to get back in the game against the in-form hosts.

To their credit, Fukushima didn't let their heads drop after conceding. They finished the first half stronger and nearly found an equalizer right before halftime, but a last ditch block denied their attacker. At the break it was 1-0 to Ehime.

Fukushima knew they needed to be more clinical in the final third if they wanted something out of this match. Some substitutions at halftime helped inject more attacking impetus. Within 10 minutes of the restart, their per - <https://mbscore.tv/match/fukushima-united-vs-ehime-18778035>