

Kinnear blast for Howard

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YORK CITY	1
Nogan (32)	
LUTON TOWN	2
Griffiths (42), Hillier (74)	
By ANURAG MOHANTY	

LUTON boss Joe Kinnear branded Hatters striker Steve Howard a 'disgrace' after a pulsating encounter at Bootham Crescent.

The burly forward decided he would step up for a 52nd-minute penalty instead of designated spot-kick taker Aaron Skelton after substitute Stuart Douglas was pushed by York defender Graham Potter.

City goalkeeper Alan Fettis saved Howard's effort — but referee Graham Salisbury ordered it to be retaken for encroachment.

Luton midfielder Kevin Nicholls picked up the ball to hand it to Skelton only for Howard to grab the ball back and become involved in a shoving match with five of his team-mates.

Fettis saved the second spot-kick with his legs, much to the delight of the City supporters, to keep the score at 1-1.

The Minstermen immediately broke away for Michael Procter to pick out unmarked second-half substitute Marc Salvati in the penalty area — but a dream goal for the debutant was ruled out for offside.

Howard was then penalised for a late challenge on City midfielder Nick Richardson minutes later, and Kinnear made the decision to haul off the former Northampton forward.

Kinnear said: "It was disgraceful behaviour. I told him so in the dressing room, and he knows my feelings exactly.

"No one's bigger than the club, that's for sure. His behaviour, to

rear up on his own team-mates in that manner — I won't accept that from anybody. I don't care who he is."

Howard's petulance spoiled a superb match which Luton were fortunate to win.

City took the lead after 32 minutes when Procter slipped past Russell Perrett with his back to the central defender. The on-loan Sunderland striker sent over a perfect cross for Lee Nogan to drill home.

Luton levelled three minutes from the break when Carl Griffiths steered in a header from a Kevin Nicholls' cross.

York centre-back John Fielding also hit the bar with a powerful header four minutes after Ian Hillier thumped in the winner from the edge of the box following a clearance from midfielder Lee Bullock.



BRASSED OFF: York's Chris Brass takes a crashing fall against Luton