

Match Report – Sunday 6th March

Girls Under 12 League

Camberley 2 Woking Hurricanes 6

Woking successfully rose to the Camberley challenge to win 6-2.

Kitty Raphael scored first, placing us ahead at the end of the first 3rd. Camberley equaliser with a 1 on 1 on Lara to level the match on the second third. Camberley then took the lead with a break way goal early into the final third. Happily, Woking then woke up and started to move the ball around much more freely, resulting in 5 goals from Lottie Roberts *2, Eleanor Foster * 2 and Millie Riley.

Whilst it's fair to say Camberley only had 9 players and no goal keeper, we kindly leant them two players (thanks to those 6 girls who volunteered to play for the opposition over the 3 3rds) to make the game (more) even.

We were clearly the better team. It was great to see the girls have confidence (and time) to receive and run with the ball rather than just blindly hit on first touch. Some players were controlling the ball delicately, so it continued to roll exactly where they wanted it. Great to see.

The defence (Ella, Issy, Eleanor G, Elsa, Molly) tried a new sweeper system, which worked fairly well. Marking was generally good and our tackling strong. All have learnt to clear the ball off the side, or even better to dribble out to the side, create space for the clearance. We even broke up their ring on 16s and got some away off to the side; but still more work here.

Midfield (Kitty, Millie, Lucy, Emily) demonstrated receiving the ball on their weak side, controlling it onto their strong side and playing out to the right. We often received the ball and had the confidence the hold onto it, turn round, confuse the opposition and then pass or dribble up the pitch. I even saw a one - two around the opposition players!

Forwards (Eleanor F, Lottie, Emily, Megan) came into their own in the 3rd part of the match scoring 5 goals. Need to practice more about moving into space, we could have sent the ball into the corners a couple of times, behind the opposition defence, but did not quite see the opportunity. Having said that, we took our chances well and could easily have had two or three more.

Lastly (but not least) Lara took a turn in goal having damaged her knee skiing (much more dangerous sport than hockey). She did a great job, stopped several shots on target and cleared out to side, well done. Sadly very quiet last 3rd, but hardly her fault.

I have rarely done man of the match, but this time, young Millie was outstanding and deserves a mention. She controlled the centre mid field, helped the attack, worked back into defence and many times she lost her marker through control and confidence on the ball. Well done.

So, our first win! Off to open the champagne.