

Match Report - Sunday 11th October

Girls Under 14 Home Counties Development League

Reigate Priory 7 Woking Wagtails 0

The Woking Wagtails got their season off to a great start - despite an undeserved final score line - in a closely fought contest against Reigate Priory.

The Wagtails are playing in the U14 Home Counties development league but the average age of the Woking side was only 12 in this match (I worked this out to make sure I was correct!). Despite giving away a couple of years in average age - and probably over a foot in average height, it was the Wagtails that began the match the brighter.

Katie Jarvis and Rebecca Jenkins making their debuts were particularly influential in the Woking midfield, creating early chances for the hard working forward line of Brigitta Scorovich, Ella Jones and Robyn Brunskill.

Unfortunately Woking were unable to capitalise on their early possession and Reigate's greater experience began to come to the fore as they became more dominant. Danielle Kimber did well to clear the lines on a couple of occasions whilst Katie Beachamp and Anna Major both made telling tackles to keep Reigate at bay.

Just as it appeared that Woking were beginning to get back into the match however Reigate scored a well taken goal to nudge ahead.

Megan Allcock and captain Emma Hubbard continued to fight hard in midfield whilst Sophie Hubbard came on and immediately added some further pace to the attack.

It was evenly matched throughout the rest of the first half with chances at both ends but unfortunately whilst Woking failed to convert theirs, Reigate's forwards were on top form as they converted two more to take a 3-0 half time lead.

The second half was much of the same. Rhiannon Mellor made a number of good saves from the strong Reigate front line, whilst Jemima Padua probably just about edged the player of the match award for Woking with a series of scintillating runs - taking advantage of the new self pass rule on several occasions to catch Reigate napping and carve through their midfield.

The Wagtails fought hard to the end, maintaining their discipline and shape throughout the match. They easily deserved a couple of goals but it just wasn't to be, whilst Reigate's age and experience was sufficient to see them convert another four of their chances - all of them very well taken.

The final score line by no means reflected how close these two sides were - and that comment came from both Reigate's umpire and coach who were both highly impressed with Woking's young side!

I am sure we will play a lot worse and win matches this season. For the first match together this was a great team performance and I am sure that several of the girls will soon be knocking on the door of Andy's team. Well played to everyone - lets hope we get a more deserving score line next time out.

Many thanks to the parents for providing transport and lots of encouraging vocal support and even a pair of shoes for the one girl on the team who forgot to bring hers bet you don't forget them again!!