

Match Report - Sunday 17th January

Girls Under 14 Development League

Teddington 0 Woking 2

Woking took a very young side to Teddington in the U14 Home Counties Development League and suffered an early psychological blow. The Teddington girls were not only much older/taller but they even had their names on the back of their shirts! (Wokings average age was only 12 for this match as an indication of quite how young our girls were).

Captain Emma Hubbard was very astute at the toss, deciding to play the first half with the sun in Woking's eyes so they could have the advantage in the second. From the pushback Woking established their dominance with Alice Boneham, Robyn Brunskill and Jemima Padua all showing early form in attack. With a strong backline of Emma Hubbard, Megan Allcock, Katie Beauchamp and Anna Major, Alex Russell was well protected in the Woking goal and Teddington found it difficult to break into the Woking half.

Abi Lord, Harriet Sharp and Sophie Hubbard all had chances to open the scoreline and Brunskill and Boneham were both unlucky not to get onto the scoresheet with Teddington's keeper playing an absolute blinder. Woking won a number of short corners and Ella Jones went close after a couple of dazzling runs but somehow the scores remained level at half time.

With the girls proving they were more than a match for Teddington the formation was changed for the second half, allowing Nicole Chapman Hatchett to play in a more forward role. We also had a quick review of short corner tactics with a view to making more of the chances in the second half. The changeover worked from the outset. Emma Hubbard, Danielle Kimber and Alice Boneham continued to dictate play and Lord and Hatchett were soon carving out scoring opportunities with the Teddington keeper again proving very difficult to beat. Padua and Jones were both looking very strong and finally Woking took the lead that their dominance deserved with an excellent taken chance by Chapman-Hatchett. Hubbard's decision to play with the sun in the oppositions eyes in the second half proved a good one and sister Sophie began to ask some real questions of the Teddington defence with some surging forward play.

Brunskill was playing very well on the left hand side, pushing up well from defence to create an overlap and causing numerous problems for the Teddington side. With Woking pushing forward there was always the risk that they might fall to the counter attack but Sharp made one telling interception and Katie Beauchamp was on hand to mop up any loose balls, safely dribbling the ball back up the pitch to turn defence back into attack.

Kimber, Allcock and Major looked very comfortable on the ball, passing the ball well and finding space, whilst Boneham continued to be outstanding in the centre of the park. The short corner routines began to look far more threatening and with Woking piling on the pressure Lord did well to convert an excellent chance to double the score. Alex Russell didn't put a foot wrong all afternoon in goal although I'm sure she will have far busier days before the end of the season!

This was an outstanding result from a very young side - unbeaten in 2010 long may it remain so!!!

WELL PLAYED EVERYONE - now perhaps you will believe me that just because someone had their name on the back of their shirt it doesn't make them a better player!!!