

## Match Report – Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> November

### Girls Under 12 League

#### Woking Hurricanes 0 Aylesbury 10

I think it's fair to say Aylesbury showed us what a quality team looks like. Bucks champions and 5 county players in their team. The whole team was warming up 30 minutes before the game! We lost 0-10 although that possibly flatters Aylesbury. Our 11 players battled hard and ran their hearts out. At one point, Lara took a ball in the face but was not prepared to stand on the side with an ice pack for longer than 1 minute, partly encouraged by her team mates who were quick to point out to her that we had no subs so needed her back!!

Emily put in a valiant effort in goal given the torrent of shots as well as some of her own team getting in her way and passing to the opposition in front of goal!! Phoebe was solid in defence and hit the ball well from 16s, just too many Aylesbury players to hit through. Isobel and Molly both grew in strength as the game went on and got the hang of looking to clear wide rather than straight back to the opposition. Both made goal saving interceptions on many occasions. Kitty, Lucy and Millie took on the central roles but found themselves against older / stronger opposition. Nevertheless they were looking to pass to Woking players and made several runs, with both Lucy and Kitty looking dangerous on our forays into the opposition D and Millie demonstrating maturity on the ball to try to not give it away even when under immense pressure. Bethan and Lottie were left and right midfield. Bethan tackled hard and is picking up the idea of clearing hard as well. Lottie went on some excellent dribbles down the right hand side, looking for and finding Eleanor on the right wing more than once.

Lara and Eleanor were our wingers. Lara was everywhere (note for me, play Lara in midfield) made some excellent dribbles around several players often from dangerous areas in our half, however was unfortunately crowded out by the Aylesbury girls. Eleanor kept her position and often received the ball on the right hand side taking off on a run on our strong side. At one point it was three Aylesbury against Eleanor and she calmly crossed (at speed) to Lucy in the middle giving us an excellent attacking opportunity.

On the development side, we need to practice more 16s to get the ball away from danger. We were better than the last match but still much more to do. Our key issue however was tackling the player with the ball. We marked our players well preventing the pass, but sadly allowed the player with the ball (i.e. the most dangerous one) to run in to the D and wind up for the shot without a single challenge. We lost at least 5 goals from this basic error. Still at least we know what to do on Friday. Next week is Reading away at 12.30pm. Can we be there for no later than 12pm. I want to look as professional as the Aylesbury mob.