

**Match Report – Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> January**

**Girls Under 12 League**

**Aylesbury 4 Woking Hurricanes 1**

With some trepidation, the Hurricanes travelled miles to Aylesbury to take on a squad that beat us 10-0 last time. Happily, the Hurricanes turned up determined to put on a good show for the travelling parents and frankly gave Aylesbury a good game with, dare I say it, a flattering score line. Our defensive line of Bethan in goal (looking very under the weather but still turning out for the team - top girl), Kitty, Ella and Issy played their hearts out. Each of the three full backs saved at least one certain goal and tackled for Britain. Our 16s were still something to work on both in terms of smacking the ball and having a ring to break up the opposition. Midfield of Lucy, Millie and Phoebe fought hard to control the middle of the park, often intercepting passes with the reverse stick, and pleasingly looking up for the pass (we even passed back once to get out of trouble). We need to look wider and use our midfield to drag the play wider, thereby creating spaces. Tara and Lottie played inners with both showing confidence on the ball and Lottie even sending a reverse sweep down the line for Eleanor to chase; not sure I can do that! Tara showed her athletic stamina throughout and leads me to conclude that more fitness is needed as we looked very tired in most parts of the pitch. Up front, we had Eleanor, Elsa and Emily. Emily found it too challenging to wait up front for the ball, so spent a lot of the time supporting her teammates in midfield and then running back to get into position. Eleanor scored our only goal from a marvellously worked run down the right and cross from Lottie assisted by Millie for Eleanor to sweep into the goal. We could have been 1-0 early in the game, when Elsa had an amazing run from just beyond the half way line, chased all the way by two opponents who just could not catch up, only to push the ball wide of her mark.

In summary, the best performance of the Hurricanes this year. Roll on next week.