

Great Effort, but Cop too Strong

The first home match of the season saw BWR take on Copmanthorpe at our temporary home ground of York College. The girls put in a magnificent performance, but ran out of steam as the longer playing time of 25 minutes per half took its toll early in the season. Two second half goals won the match for Copmanthorpe as the girls lost 2-0. The friendly was a 9 a-side match with the girls re-enforced with our non-registered players. They all did really well against the same, strong Copmanthorpe team and it ended all level at 0-0. The girls kept working and trying until the very end and deserve great credit for their performance.

Team: Rose, Emily G, Annie, Maeve, Emily O, Amelia, Freya, Abbi, Caitlin, Jess, Charlotte

League Match: Lost 2-0

Friendly: Drew 0-0

Captain: Freya

Player of the League Match: Maeve. A brave and committed performance from Maeve in goal as she pulled off a number of excellent saves, including a point blank stop from a Copmanthorpe breakaway. Her handling and kicking were superb all match and she was really unlucky with both goals. A fantastic goalkeeping display.

Player of the Friendly Match: Caitlin. This was Caitlin's first competitive game in almost a year and she slotted back in the side as though she had never been away. Strong tackling, tracking back, marking, reading of the game, were all in evidence as she dominated in defence. A superb comeback performance.

Match Report:

It was the first home game of the season for the girls, but played at York College while there are still Caravans at Moor Lane. In contrast to the previous game, it was lovely weather as the girls took on a strong Copmanthorpe side. The opening exchanges were fairly even as the girls competed well all over the pitch. Maeve was in goal and was called upon to make some great saves, and her handling and kicking were excellent all game. In defence, Emily G and Abbi were very strong, with Abbi reading the game superbly with great interceptions and strong tackling and Emily G used her pace to great effect and stopped numerous attacks with last ditch tackles. In midfield, Annie, Emily O and Amelia all worked really hard, tracking runners, tackling and supporting the attack. They really put in a shift and they never stopped running. Up front, Rose and Freya ran themselves into the ground, but had absolutely no luck. They chased down lost causes, and pressed defenders, but never got the break in front of goal. Freya had a number of opportunities in the first half, with some great shots and crosses, and she also set up Rose for a chance with lovely through ball. A very even first half finished 0-0.

The second half continued where the first left off, with chances at both ends, including Freya hitting the post, and some great play by the girls all over the pitch. Mid-way through the half the girls started to tire, and niggling injuries and only having one sub started to take its toll. With 10 minutes left, hesitation in the home defence allowed a Copmanthorpe striker to take a snapshot which Maeve tried desperately to stop but it looped into the goal. The girls tried their best to get back on level terms with Freya, Rose, Emily G and Annie all having efforts on goal. Copmanthorpe wrapped

up their win with a neatly taken goal from a corner and there was no time for the girls to mount a comeback but they all battled to the final whistle.

For the friendly reinforcements arrived with Charlotte, Caitlin and Jess all turning out for BWR. It was a 9 a-side game with Freya in goal, Caitlin, Amelia and Rose in defence, Jess, Emily O and Emily G in midfield and Charlotte and Maeve up front. Annie and Abbi swapped with Emily G and Rose at half-time. The sides were equally matched and the extra numbers on both sides made it difficult to find space, but the girls again matched Copmanthorpe all over the pitch and play was quite even. Freya had to make some smart saves and Maeve was always a danger up front with her pace, but both sides cancelled each other out and a draw was a fair result. Caitlin had a great game and picked up Player of the Match for her performance. Jess worked really hard in midfield and never stopped running and trying. Great credit should also go to Charlotte as this was her first competitive game for BWR and she was excellent. She popped up all over the pitch, marking, tackling, running into space, and she played a lovely through ball to Maeve which very nearly brought a goal. A great debut.

Another tough match for the girls as the longer playing time, injuries, small squad size and quality opponents all played their part. The girls ran out of steam in the end but their play before that was really encouraging and they should all be proud of their efforts. Well done girls!

Regards,

Andy