

U12s Go Down To Narrow Defeat

The first League match after Christmas saw BWR travel the short distance to Askham Bryan College to take on local rivals Copmanthorpe. In a highly competitive and close match, Copmanthorpe got the only goal of the game to send the girls to a 1-0 defeat. The friendly was another close affair with Emily G's superb goal being cancelled out late in the second-half to leave it 1-1. So, disappointment in the League match as the girls deserved something from the game, but a fair result in the Friendly as there was little between the two teams.

Team: Annie, Emily G, Freya, Maeve, Amelia, Isabella, Charlotte, Rose

Captain: Rose

League Match: Lost 1-0

Friendly Match: Drew 1-1 (Emily G)

POM League: Rose. Rose produced an outstanding display in defence where she showed what an excellent all-rounder she is. She commanded the defence with authority and confidence, using her superb ball skills to great effect. Rose read the game brilliantly and was always well positioned and she made some excellent tackles and interceptions. Her distribution from the back was outstanding and it was a real Captain's performance.

POM Friendly: Emily G. Emily scored the goal of the morning and her all round effort and enthusiasm were inspiring. She never stopped running for both games and was a real handful for the Copmanthorpe defence. Emily made some incredible runs and was really unlucky not to get more goals. Her work rate was phenomenal as she helped out in defence and then tried to make the difference up front. A really great performance.

Match Report

This was a game of few chances as both teams cancelled each other out. Maeve in goal had few actual saves to make but her handling and awareness were impressive and she was a safe pair of hands for the whole match. Her kicking from floor and from hand were excellent throughout and she was unlucky not to get a much deserved clean sheet. The defence was excellently led by Rose as Captain who put in a masterful performance, and she was joined at the back by Amelia who had another superb game. Amelia was brave in the tackle, made some telling interceptions and she never stopped running for the whole game. In midfield, Annie and Isabella were once again an impressive double act. Annie is now the archetypal midfield player, getting from box to box, tackling, pressing and also being able to pass and create. Isabella made some great runs down the wing as well as always making the effort to track back and help out the defence. Her skill on the ball is excellent and she battled on even though she was feeling poorly, which was a fantastic effort for the team. Up front Emily and Freya caused the Copmanthorpe defence headaches for the whole match. They never stopped running and trying, and although chances were hard to come by, they never let their heads go down or give up. Charlotte started as sub but was soon on as a striker and she ran her socks off for the team, holding up the ball, linking up the play and also tracking back to help her team mates.

The only goal of the game came from a corner midway through the first half. Indecision as to whether the ball would go out of play led to it sneaking through and it was a simple tap in on the line for the Copmanthorpe player. It was a real disappointment for the girls but they rallied and it was 1-0 at half-time. The second-half brought more half-chances at both ends without ever really testing

either keeper, but BWR were playing some excellent football. It was great to see the girls lifting their heads and picking out team-mates with good passes. The stalemate continued until the last 10 minutes when BWR stepped up the pressure to get the equaliser. A superb run down the left hand side by Emily brought a penalty shout (at least from the coaches!) as she was pushed in the back, and then another run by Emily saw her cut the ball back from the by-line only for Copmanthorpe to clear after a goal-mouth scramble. The girls were really knocking on the door now, and good efforts by Freya, Amelia and Emily were all blocked or went just wide, but time ran out and it ended 1-0.

The friendly was an 8 a-side game so all the squad could take part. Freya went in goal. Charlotte, Maeve and Amelia in defence. Annie and Isabella in midfield and Emily G and Rose up front. The balance of the side was really good, and Charlotte deserves special praise for some excellent tackling and great interceptions in defence. Emily opened the scoring with a superb goal. Latching on to a through ball from Annie after some tenacious tackling in midfield, Emily ran half the length of the pitch, beating two defenders before rifling an unstoppable shot into the top right hand corner. The goal lifted the girls after the disappointment of the first match and they put together some great passing moves. The second half brought pressure from Copmanthorpe as they tried for the equaliser. It took a brilliant save from Freya to keep the lead intact, as she palmed a shot onto the crossbar, but eventually the pressure told and Copmanthorpe got their goal and it ended 1-1, which was probably a fair result.

The League result apart, it was a really good morning of football for the girls as they all played well against well-matched opposition. Well done girls!