

## U13s Come Back Twice to Win Again

A bright and dry Saturday morning saw the first ever visit of Kirk Deighton Rangers to Moor Lane. Emily S gave the girls the perfect start but two soft goals from the League newcomers before half time left the girls with lots to do. Emily G equalised early in the second half before a defensive mix-up left the girls behind again. With time running out, Isabella equalised with a fine run and shot, before Emily S got a fourth and then completed her hat-trick with a penalty with almost the last kick of the game. A terrific game of football which left everybody involved breathless and exhausted by the final whistle.

**Team:** Freya, Maeve, Emily G, Isabella, Annie, Emily S, Rose, Amelia

**Captain:** Emily S

**League Match:** Won 5-3 (Emily S (3 – 1 pen), Emily G, Isabella)



**POM League:** The captain's armband worked its magic again as this player had a superb game. Starting in an advanced position she caused the Kirk Deighton defence lots of problems with her pace and determination. Then, asked to drop back into midfield, she ran herself into the ground, tackling, pressing and then launching attacks and supporting her team mates. Her goals were excellent and she showed calmness and authority to score the penalty which completed her hat-trick. An excellent display.

### Match Report

Early pressure from BWR was really encouraging as the girls laid siege to the Kirk Deighton goal, but the league newcomers have been getting better week on week and they put up a spirited defence. There always seemed to be a defender's foot or leg in the way and the opposition were fast on the break, with Amelia and Rose having to be at their very best to deal with the swift counter attacks. Finally the girls got the goal their opening play deserved as Emily S picked up the ball on the right wing and sent in a fierce shot which the Kirk Deighton keeper had no chance with. From the kick-off the BWR pressure continued and Emily S had another shot which the Keeper did well to put out for a corner. Up to that point, Maeve in goal really hadn't been put under any pressure, but then a good corner from the opposition was allowed to travel right through the BWR box and a Kirk Deighton player on the back post easily put it away. The surprise equaliser shocked the girls into trying even harder for another goal, and Emily G had a fine run and shot which went over the bar, and Emily S and Emily G both had shots charged down in a mad goalmouth scramble which saw some desperate defending from the visitors. After putting so much pressure on the Kirk Deighton goal, the girls were hit with a sucker punch as a quick breakaway down the right wing saw the opposition winger score a lovely goal to make it 2-1. BWR tried desperately to get an equaliser before half-time as Freya first had a shot saved by the keeper

and then just shot wide after a lovely through ball from Isabella. But the half ended with the girls trailing 2-1.

The girls started the second half brightly, with much more energy and purpose, and soon got their equaliser as good work by Freya and Annie left Emily G in the clear and she fired in a shot which was too hot for the keeper to handle. More pressure on the Kirk Deighton goal followed as Isabella, Annie and Rose all had efforts on goal. The girls then went behind again as a defensive mix-up allowed the visitors to score a third. The girls could have let their heads go down, but they didn't, and with only ten minutes of the match left came a massive turning point in the game. The ball broke kindly for a Kirk Deighton forward, and clean through on goal only had Maeve to beat. Maeve produced a wonderful save, the ball rebounding out to Isabella who picked up the loose ball and ran almost the full length of the pitch to score a wonderful goal in the top corner. The change of fortune gave the girls renewed energy and they pressed for the winner. Good work by Freya set up Emily S who buried a shot into the corner for 4-3 and then in the dying seconds of the game a cross was handled in the area and Emily S stepped up to coolly fire home and complete her hat-trick with almost the last kick of the game.

Maeve in goal was a real safe pair of hands, with good calling and some strong kicks. Amelia and Rose in defence were really commanding with some excellent tackles and interceptions, and Rose made some good runs forward with the ball. In midfield, Annie, Isabella and Emily G ran their socks off with good support for the forwards and some intelligent passing moves. Up front, Freya and Emily S worked really hard for the team, creating chances and pressing the Kirk Deighton defence, but also dropping back when required.

Despite some sloppy goals conceded, the girls had a great second half and thoroughly deserved their win as they were the better side by far. Well done girls!