



Hitchin Hearts Belles FC 2010-2011 Under 10's Match Report



Date: Saturday 20th November 2010
Kick-off: 10:30AM
Venue: Kings Langley
Competition: League match V Kings Langley Belles

It would be very easy for me to cut and paste the report from the 1-1 draw with Knebworth 2 weeks ago and place it here as both games and results were carbon copies...but I won't.

The Belles experienced their first away game for what seemed like months (actually it was on the 10th October) when they travelled three anti-clockwise junctions around the M25 to Kings Langley to recommence battle of the Belles.

With all 11 registered players on show today, it was an ideal team photo opportunity, so here they all are.



Captain Katie led the team today after last week's all round display and led the Belles from Hitchin out onto the muddy pitch which made Ickleford look like the Emirates stadium.

Whilst our Belles managed to put an early stamp on the game they failed to create any meaningful attacks as their efforts seemed to be reserved for battling instead of working off the ball. (bit of a theme here if you were to read the last 4 match reports!)

On occasion, Erin piled forward individually but showed one touch too many on this boggy pitch which allowed KL to clear their lines. Cleo was solid at the back and when the nippy Chloe from KL did break forward, she was always successful in pushing her out to the wings where she couldn't hurt us and eventually come away with the ball, switching play with lovely weighted passes.

Erin began to link well with Katie who ate up the yards down the right side but again the Belles failed to make anything of these attacking runs. Katie herself came closest when one of her crosses hit the near post.

With 5 minutes remaining of the first half, Rosie replaced Nemo on the left wing and made an instant impact making some decisive inside runs and linked well with Zhane who had pulled out wide allowing Katie a 1v1 position which we failed to exploit but the signs were there.

The first half in summary: KL no threat to us, we battled well as a team but failed to create meaningful chances going forward.

HT score 0-0.

Match Report by: Simon O'Leary



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The coaches asked for more movement off the ball (green lights) and asked the girls to play forward passes into space if we can't play to feet.

Within the first minute of the second half, Katie in a central position found Courtney out wide on the right who looked up and crossed a lovely ball behind the defensive line to find Rosie who having read the pass perfectly, was there to slot in past the keeper. Excellent, a 3 pass move and the Belles were 1 up!



Rosie was fired up now and started picking up on loose balls and turned them into powerful runs at the KL defence to force a series of last ditch tackles and corners. One corner from Erin sailed through the KL box as both teams failed to get anyone on the end of it.

As the Belles pushed on for the second goal KL seemed to build

a wall of players in front of their goal and our efforts just rebounded against a mass of black and white bodies as shown here when Katie and Nemo tried their luck to breach their defence.



KL's defence was resolute and managed to clear their lines and put our Belles on the back foot. With around 7 minutes remaining the inevitable happened. A KL corner pierced our defence and with our girls not goal side, the ball fell kindly to a KL girl who powered home from 2 yards.

The Belles pushed on again but found the same result, a game of pin ball in the KL box as our shots came straight back off of the tightly packed KL defence of 5 players.

One final moment of horror nearly occurred at the very end of the match when KL's Chloe got the wrong side of Gemma and headed for our goal and the match winner. She unleashed a powerful shot to our Chloe E's left who managed to flick out a boot and divert it for a corner and earned the Belles from Hitchin a much deserved point but left the coaches wandering how we hadn't come away with 3!

The second half in summary: Lots of Hitchin Belles pressure but just the one goal. KL a threat on the break. Corners! We will be doing them on Tuesday.

Team: Chloe K, Erin, Gemma, Cleo, Katie, Courtney, Zhane, Tashai, Nemo, Rosie, Chloe E

Final score: 1 v 1

Player of the Match: Rosie – showed excellent commitment in her tackling, great runs and scored to top off a great performance.

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