



Hitchin Hearts Belles FC 2010-2011 Under 11's Match Report



Date: Saturday 2nd Apr 2011
Kick-off: 11:00 am
Venue: Sun Postal Sports Ground, Watford
Competition: HGFPL

Watford Ladies 1 v 4 HHBs U11s

Years of commitment, sacrifice and hard work finally paid off as Hitchin Hearts Belles U11s got the reward that their endeavours deserved with this win against Watford that now gives them an unassailable lead at the top of the HGFPL 1st Division. The Belles went in to the game knowing that if they came away with all 3 points and their closest rivals Bury Rangers dropped any points at all in their double header against St Albans, then the race for the title would be well and truly over and they would be crowned champions.

The girls travelled to Watford with an enviable unbeaten record in the league but knew they'd need to play their best to get past an improved home side that had already given them two tough games this season. Sasa was captain for the game after last weeks double header wins at St Albans. Watford got the game underway but it was the Belles who nearly got on the score sheet in the first minute, as Sadie shot just wide after good work from Emily and Sasa. Four minutes later though, Hitchin did take the lead as Sadie managed to hit the target this time, again after good work from Emily. The Belles now had something to build on but instead they chose to sit back a bit and let Watford dictate the game and on a couple of occasions they came very close to conceding an equaliser. Watford were very good in the air and their lofted passes started to cause problems for the Belles. It came as no real surprise when Watford did equalise after 15 minutes. A sustained period of Watford pressure resulted in two corners, the second of which the Belles couldn't clear and they could only watch as it was poked past a helpless Nicole in the Hitchin goal. The goal seemed to bring the Belles back to life and inject a sense of urgency in to them which had been lacking. Sadie and Emily both had efforts saved to put the Belles back in to the lead and Josephine also had a glorious chance to put Hitchin ahead. Sasa and Josephine were now starting to take control of midfield but Jess and Tanya still had to be on their toes as Watford looked to take the lead themselves. Two minutes before halftime the girls did indeed take the lead with a "lucky" strike from Sadie out wide on the wing, which hit both the post and the Watford keeper before bobbling over the line.



Josephine gets a sniff of goal



Ciara wins the ball

Half time score: 1 v 2

Match Report by: Rob Kovacs



Hitchin Hearts Belles FC 2010-2011 Under 11's Match Report



Maybe it was nerves that accounted for the 1st half blip but there were no signs of them at the start of the second as Hitchin went straight on the attack with Em again unfortunate to see her shot miss the target. With Kinnari now in midfield alongside Sasa and Ursula in defence the Belles started to play the type of football that we've all become accustomed to over the seasons. Watford's aerial passes were no match for Ursula as she won header after header and took the game by the scruff of the neck. The Belles slick passing now started to open Watford up and it was soon all one way traffic with the Watford keeper pulling off a string of good saves to keep the Belles at bay. Hitchin were camped in the hosts half and had a string of corners. It was from one of these that Sadie claimed hers, and Hitchin's, third goal. A well struck corner from Sasa, wasn't cleared and fell to Kinnari, who then found Sadie unmarked, to fire the Belles further in to the lead. Two minutes later and the Belles nearly had a fourth as Hitchin lined up to take turns at shooting during an almighty goalmouth scramble but could only watch in disbelief as the ball went the wrong side of the post for a goal kick. Watford never seriously threatened in the second half and with Tanya or Ciara anchoring the defence, Ursula was putting her new found freedom to good use by pushing forward. A move started by Ursula, deep in her own half, nearly paid dividends as did a delightful one touch passing display by Ursula, Sasa, Kinnari, Sadie and Emily. It was Emily who finally got the goal that her efforts deserved, after being put through on goal by yet another great pass from Ursula. Emily, taking the time to look up and calmly slotting the ball past the impressive Watford keeper. The final whistle sounded, ending a fantastic second half display and bagging another 3 points. Although the girls lapsed somewhat during the first half they did all they were asked of in the second and some of the passing play was the best seen.

Hitchin had done their part, could St Albans do theirs? The answer, after an agonising wait to confirm it, was a resounding "yes" as they managed a 2-2 draw in one of their games therefore ensuring Bury can only get a maximum of 43 points.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2010-11 HGFPL DIV1 CHAMPIONS- HITCHIN HEARTS BELLES U11s !!



Goal!! Em watches her shot home



The Belles in discussion

Team: Nicole, Tanya, Jess, Ciara, Ursula, Josephine, Sasa, Kinnari, Emily, Sadie, Jessica

Player of the Match: Ursula- a brilliant second half performance. Winning tackles and headers great runs up the wings and fantastic passing, especially for the 4th goal.