

Comberton Crusaders FC



Match Report



Comberton Crusaders 2 Sawston United Girls 0

Week 2 of the 2011-12 season saw Comberton Crusaders Girls U13s play their first match at their new home venue, Barton Recreation Ground, boasting excellent new facilities, with the Pavilion officially opened the previous day.

The home side welcomed Sawston to what promised to be a close game, as these encounters often are. Comberton started confidently and played some well-disciplined football, passing the ball effortlessly through midfield and on to attack. Sawston were equal to the display with some great passes of their own.

Abbie played a pivotal role in the centre of the pitch asking for the ball and distributing it effectively to build the attack. Peony, Martha and Ceyda created opportunities but were finding it difficult to outwit the Sawston defence. A strong defensive performance from Emily, Lucy and Rachel ensured that the visitors did not get an opportunity to take the lead.

Eventually a skilful run through the midfield, from Kirsty, resulted in her shot being parried by the keeper for Ceyda to latch onto the loose ball and christen the new nets with the first goal of the game.

Comberton had worked hard in the first half playing attractive passing football but also determined to win back possession when losing the ball.

The second half kicked off with substitutes Juliette in attack and Grace in defence. Comberton had an early opportunity with the kick off and nearly scored from the first move. They proved determined to add to their score and after a few attempts on goal they found the net for a second. Emily crossed the ball through the penalty box, sending it past the defence, finding Juliette at the far post to slot the ball home for her second goal in a competitive match for Comberton.

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Sawston were quick to respond and, as Comberton began to visibly tire Sawston appeared to gain a new boost of energy. The Crusaders had to battle to prevent the visitors from scoring and, with a sudden heavy downpour of rain, the conditions became tricky.

EJ, who had again provided some excellent drop kicks from goal, had not been called upon to make any major saves, until she was presented with a difficult shot which, in the wet conditions, was difficult to handle. Despite the ball slipping from her gloved hands she managed to clear the ball behind the goal line for a corner. A sure sign of a good goalkeeper, being able to handle the ball in difficult situations, after a relatively quite time in goal.

The end of the game was signalled moments later and Comberton can be pleased with the result in a match that was as competitive as it had promised to be.

Thanks to newly qualified referee, Ian Geal, who officiated for the first time.

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