

## 21 September 2019 – U12 Bees v Holmes Chapel Hurricanes

The sunshine at a scorching Winsford was eclipsed by both the Bees' new kit (that goalie shirt!) and their stellar performance.

The Bees started against an admittedly depleted Holmes Chapel team like a team full of confidence, and it wasn't long before striker Georgia opened the scoring with her first of the season, to be followed very shortly afterwards by central midfielders Raphi and Millie also opening their accounts with equally assured finishes. The close interplay between these three, Sophia and the relentless Ruby tore through their opponents time and time again, and Georgia had completed an impressive hat-trick in the first 15 minutes, one of these following a neat pass from Sophia.

Amelie courageously volunteered to assist Holmes Chapel from the start and defended resolutely for them; she was joined by Ruby for the remainder of the first half, a switch that made the game a more even contest as she drove Holmes Chapel forward just as she does for Waverton. An unfortunate own goal and further goals for Raphi and Georgia underlined the Bees' dominance.

At the back, Elsa, Daisy and captain Amelia were relatively untroubled, but swept up what danger there was as a calm and composed unit, taking advantage of the space in front of them to get their heads up and either pick out passes or rampage forwards.

The second half kicked off with Elsa and Raphi volunteering to assist Holmes Chapel. Elsa enjoyed a good battle with Georgia and Raphi played as well in the centre of their midfield as she had in Waverton's: her recent partner in crime Millie was hard-pushed more than once to contain her. Holmes Chapel, who had not let their heads go down all afternoon, were rewarded for their tenacity with two goals in this period.

Sophia was unlucky not to score with a first time effort direct from a goal-kick. Milliesta (© D. Ince) however, continued to pull the strings on the edge of the Holmes Chapel area and slipped a number of gorgeous passes in to her team-mates. It just wouldn't go in for Ruby or Sarina, the latter impressing with a very energetic cameo in central midfield for the last 10 minutes, but Georgia added her fifth of the game and Amelia popped up on the right hand side to smash in two for herself late on, one of which was started with a great pass from Amelie by her own corner flag.

Aside from all the goals, it was great to see a number of the girls shooting from distance, with Ruby, Georgia, Amelia and Daisy doing so from further and further away respectively: shooting practice on Wednesday certainly did something!

A great performance from a confident Bees team, thanks mainly to their passing and use of the space on the big pitch, and just reward for their efforts in the first two games of the season, neither of which resulted in scorelines that reflected the girls' performances.

All the girls should be very proud of themselves and how they played, but special mentions to Amelie, Ruby, Elsa, Raphi and Sophia who selflessly volunteered to play for Holmes Chapel at various stages during the game, making it a more even contest for all the girls of both sides.

Captain Amelia picked two Players of the Match: Sophia and Millie 😊