

Tara's season review

Top scorer Tara Woodward reviews the Ladies' season after the Chairgirls attained a third-place finish.



Tara Woodward, right, with Natalie Barette

One season, 19 players, 26 games and 101 goals.

The 2018/19 season was one of many highs and lows for the Chairgirls. It started off well with a 3-1 penalty win over Wantage which saw us into the next round of the SSE Women's FA Cup, with this season being our first to enter the competition, but unfortunately the first heartbreak of the season came when we bowed out the same competition against a strong Ascot United side in the second round.

With the league and two other cups to focus on, our heads never went down. We started our winning streak with a 5-3 win over Alton, and carried that winning streak on for another six games until we fell victim to this year's league leaders, Moneyfields.

Followed by another league win against Southampton Development and a Berks & Bucks Cup win against league above Newbury to take us through to the semi-final, it seemed we had picked up our winning momentum, until

we faced newly promoted Abingdon United who narrowly beat us 2-1.

It was evident from here that we really had our work cut out. We carried on our league wins and an impressive 8-2 cup win over New Milton who also currently sit in the league above.

Our Berks & Bucks Cup hopes diminished along with those of the League Cup when we were beaten by a very strong Milton Keynes side in the Berks & Bucks Cup, and an equally strong Southampton side in the League Cup. Two weekends, two heartbreaks.

As we pushed for promotion we knew who was hot on our tails; with Moneyfields inevitably getting promoted it was up to us to deny or at-least delay Abingdon's promotion run. However, after coming face to face with an experienced and very talented side in our last game of the season, it was it meant to be and we left empty handed to a respectfully good Abingdon side, losing 2-0 last weekend to finish third in the table.

As a player, the feeling of coming so close to getting to where you want to be and having it taken away at the last minute never gets easier. But no matter the results we have faced, our heads have always stayed high and the team morale has never been flattened. We know what we want and we know what we deserve, next season is ours for the taking.

To the supporters who have watched us week in week out, come rain or shine, from all of us here at WWLFC - thank you. To everyone at WWFC - the media, the chairman, the gaffer and the boys - thank you for allowing us to be as one and to represent you week in week out.

See you next season.

Tara Woodward