

Seventh heaven for Chairgirls

Ladies defeat Newbury 7-1.



Wycombe Wanderers Ladies started 2020 with a resounding 7-1 victory against Newbury following a break of five weeks since their last game.

Within three minutes, Chante Inniss opened the scoring finishing off a fine team move with some individual skill to turn her defender and fire home from inside the penalty area. Spectators were witnessing an excellent opening 10 minutes of the game with some expansive and accurate passing and movement creating problems for the Newbury players.

Tara Woodward had a goal disallowed for an apparent off-side on 12 minutes and this seemed to unsettle the Chairgirls a little. The fluid passing vanished and was replaced with passes being forced as opposed to players showing composure on the ball. During this spell Newbury pulled a goal back in spectacular fashion.

The Chairgirls gave the ball away in the middle third and ended up with a Newbury player just inside her own half receiving the ball and striking it high over Amy Batkin who was around her penalty spot. Batkin arguably was where she should have been had the team retained possession but smart thinking and a quality strike deservedly earned the equaliser.

Apart from this aberration, the Wycombe back four had been largely untroubled being superbly marshalled by the Katie Hudson/Natalie Barette pairing ably supported by both Emma Newberry and Emma Dean.

Wycombe then rallied again and picked up the quality of their passing and had Newbury on the backfoot again. Lindsay Pinker, Bobby Lynch and Charlotte Bagshaw were at the heart of the best passing movements which, coupled with some excellent front player movement, engineered good chances to increase score-line.

On 29 minutes the Newbury keeper spilled the ball from a cross and skipper Charlotte Bagshaw pounced on the loose ball to poke home. The lead was extended in fine style by Chante Inniss after receiving a pass from Woodward as she turned and swivelled to volley home for her second and Wycombe's third.

On 41 minutes, the hard working Woodward pounced on a defensive mix up and finished stylishly to conclude the half.

The start of the second half saw two changes made with Hannah Cox making her debut in goal in place of Amy Batkin and Amy Leach replacing right back Emma Newberry.

Newbury proved stubborn and competitive throughout and it took a further 15 minutes of probing and pressing before Sam Jackson added the Chairgirls fifth goal following good build up play and an assist from the lively Woodward. Two further changes took place with Sarah Harrison replacing Bagshaw and Alicia Povey coming on for her debut in place of Barette, presumably to save these two key players for the challenge of next week.

The Chairgirls squandered several more chances before Woodward added to her tally with a clever lofted strike from just outside the box on 75 minutes.

Bobby Lynch in only her second game for the club scored an exquisite seventh goal with a fine curling effort from all of 30 yards.

Credit to Newbury who worked relentlessly to ensure that the Chairgirls had to earn their margin of victory. We will be visiting them shortly in the coming weeks in both league and cup action.

A fine start to 2020 with lots of games to left to play as the Chairgirls look to use their games in hand to good effect. Next week sees a very different challenge as we welcome National League Maidenhead United to Flackwell Heath in the semi-final of the Berks and Bucks Senior Women's trophy. Please note the earlier kick off of 13.00 hours.