

**Wycombe Wanderers vs. Aldershot Town**  
*Southern Region Women's Football League Premier Division*  
*15 January 2012*

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**WALLMAN SPOT ON FOR THE SHOTS**

The Shots' Ladies started 2012 in perfect fashion, with a win over Wycombe Wanderers to move them level with next week's opponents Shanklin, with a penalty from Laura Wallman and a Di Smith deflected effort.

The Shots were only missing defender Holly Gayler, who was beginning her two-match suspension for a post-match incident at Maidenhead United in November.

On a chilly but bright afternoon in Buckinghamshire, the Shots kicked off, shooting against the wind in the first half. The opening exchanges saw efforts going back and forth from both sides, with no real venom coming in the opening 10 minutes.

**GOAL FLASH: Shots 1-0 (Laura Wallman 12' Penalty)**

Following a corner from the right-hand side, the Wycombe 'keeper suddenly and inexplicably shoved Amy Lawrence to the ground, leaving the referee little choice but to award the Shots a penalty. Although complaints were voiced from the home bench, they were more in frustration at the goalkeeper's error than the referee's decision. The shot-stopper also considered herself fortunate not to receive a yellow card.

Laura Wallman immediately took responsibility of the penalty, and as the 'keeper dived right, Wallman shot left and buried the ball into the corner of the net to give the visitors a first-half lead for the first time since the Poole Town FA Cup game in October. It was Wallman's sixth of the season, putting her level with Jade Ferguson at the top of the Shots' goal scorers chart.

Wycombe then fought hard to get back into the game, and thought they had levelled on 25 minutes, but following the Shots' assistant Matt Leary had picked out an offside. There was confusion as the striker had received the ball from a Shots' player, but it turns out Leary had flagged as the ball was played by a Wycombe midfielder first before deflecting off of a Shots defender. Following a quick consultation with the referee, the goal was ruled out with no complaints from Wycombe staff.

**GOAL FLASH: Shots 2-0 (Di Smith 31')**

The Shots excellent first-half performance continued, as the reds peppered the Wycombe goal until the ball fell to Di Smith who hammered the ball goalwards. It took a wicked deflection and into the back of the net for Smith's third of the campaign.

**HT: Wycombe Wanderers 0 Aldershot Town 2**

Coach Ryan Salmon made a like-for-like change at half time, replacing Lawrence for Ferguson.

**GOAL FLASH: Shots 2-1 (52')**

The Shots were caught napping in the opening minutes of the second half, and it cost them a clean sheet when a cleverly disguised cross by the goal line missed everyone, looping over Lesley Hubbard and into an empty net.

Both sides continued to push for the remaining 40 minutes, but neither a Wycombe equaliser nor an Aldershot 3<sup>rd</sup> could be found, despite excellent performances from several players on both sides.

**FT: Wycombe Wanderers 1 Aldershot Town 2**

**Squad**

- 40. Lesley Hubbard
- 2. Amber Marsh
- 4. Di Smith
- 6. Sian Houghton
- 7. Emma North
- 10. Caz Shephard
- 12. Laura Wallman (3. Katie Salmon 60')
- 14. Amy Hubbort
- 15. Nikki Moore
- 16. Lauren Carnell
- 17. Amy Lawrence (11. Jade Ferguson 46')

*"It's always nice to come back after the festive break and the New Year with a win. Great performances up and down the pitch and we had to battle hard in the second half to keep the score at 2-1. The girls have been chomping at the bit to get back into playing and they showed it today.*

*We have a very hard game at home next week against Shanklin. They are a very tough, physical side, but we know we can beat them and will work hard in training to make sure we are ready for battle on Sunday.*

**Matt Leary**