

Aldershot Town vs. Poole Town
FA Women's Cup 1st Qualifying Round
2 October 2011



SHOTS BACK TO WINNING WAYS

Aldershot Town's Ladies side got their FA Cup campaign underway on a blazing hot Sunday afternoon with a win over Dorset side Poole Town in the 1st Qualifying Round.

The Shots were once again without Amy Hubbort, who continues her recovery from her ankle ligament damage. 1st choice 'keeper Callie Messingham and Naph Williams were on the bench, along with Laura Funnell and namesake Wallman. The strike partnership of Jade Ferguson and Amy Lawrence were back in the starting XI, and although Lauren Carnell was selected to start, a late change for Amber Marsh was made owing to a jewellery issue raised by Army FA referee Lee Cunningham.

GOAL FLASH: Shots 1-0 (Jade Ferguson 15')

The Shots kept the visitors pinned in their half from the start, which eventually resulted in the opening goal, as Jade Ferguson gave the Shots the opening goal after 15 minutes, when a ball through the midfield from Caz Shephard found Amy Lawrence, whose touch-and-turn pass found Ferguson and the youngster went on to drive the ball into the visitor's bottom left corner of the net.

Ferguson's grafting continued throughout the first half, and the current Golden Boot holder could easily have had a hat-trick within the opening half-hour, were it not for being flagged offside on several occasions.

HT: Aldershot Town 1 Poole Town 0

At half-time, the Shots turned up the wick, as Carnell was brought on in place of Katie Salmon. The Shots continued their pressure from the first half, but were being left frustrated by either not being able to find that final spark, or were being continuously flagged offside by assistant Tony Lane on the far side. Approaching the hour mark, and Laura Wallman was introduced in place of Shephard.

GOAL FLASH: Shots 2-0 (Laura Wallman 61')

The impact was immediate, as a corner from captain Emma North was flicked off of Amber Marsh into the path of player-of-the-match Di Smith, who in turn headed goalwards – only for Wallman to contribute with a header of her own to deflect past the 'keeper.

The Shots thought they had a third goal minutes later, when Ferguson and Wallman combined for Wallman to slam the ball home into the net – only for a dubious offside decision to call a halt to the celebration.

All in all, a good natured match which often featured some good passing football from both teams, and one which Shots boss Ryan Salmon can take much pleasure from, but will equally strive to find areas of improvement ahead of their next FA Women's Cup tie – at home to Southampton Women on 23rd October at Ash United FC.

FT: Aldershot Town 2 Poole Town 0

Squad

- 40. Lesley Hubbard
- 2. Amber Marsh
- 3. Holly Gayler
- 4. Di Smith
- 6. Sian Houghton (5. Naph Williams 75')
- 7. Emma North
- 10. Caz Shephard (12. Laura Wallman 57')
- 11. Jade Ferguson
- 15. Katie Salmon (14. Lauren Carnell 46')
- 16. Nikki Moore
- 17. Amy Lawrence

Unused Substitutes

- 1. Callie Messingham
- 18. Laura Funnell

Manager's Player of the Match: Di Smith