

Lakers push hard, drop close match to McAdam

By HSN Staff September 18th, 2021

The Senior Girls Soccer team fought hard but lost a close game 3-2 to McAdam on Saturday, finishing their first tournament with a record of 1-1-1. The girls kept the pressure up all game long and outshot their opponents by a wide margin, but ultimately came up short against their division rival.



The HHS Senior Girls warm up for their Friday night game against FCA. They would win that game and finish the tournament with a 1-1-1 record. Photo: Ara Henry

The Warriors struck first, sneaking an early shot past Harvey Keeper Delaney MacElwain into the

corner. But a strong counterattack from Harvey kept McAdam on the defensive for most of the first half. The Lakers had consistent attacking pressure from senior forward Ava Grieve and some nifty moves from Tournament MVP Dara Glaspy to keep possession in traffic.

Midway through the first half, midfielder Alice Vautour brought the ball up the left wing, with help from rookies Cecilia Pauley and Dakota Anderson. Vautour was awarded a free kick and made it count, tying the score at 1-all.

The Lakers defense kept the ball in McAdam's end with sisters Natalie and Jorja Bernard making long passes to maintain field position. But it was McAdam who would strike next, blazing up the sideline to put the score at 2-1. A nice setup from Riley DeMerchant to Maddy Fraser-Cole in front of McAdam's net almost tied the game, but the Warriors goalkeeper, who had strong positioning all afternoon, swallowed it up to maintain the McAdam lead at the half.

For the second half, the Lakers rotated first-year player Zoe Henry into net. Of the 14 players dressed for the Senior Girls, 8 are in Grade 9 this year.

McAdam tested Henry early, but the flow of play quickly tilted, and McAdam again found themselves defending for much of the second half. Dakota Anderson turned on the jets and frequently beat opponents with speed up the flank to keep the pressure on.

As she made a move around the defender, Glaspy drew a penalty and Vautour took the penalty kick. She beat the keeper but the ball went down off the crossbar, and Vautour's follow-up on her own rebound was saved to maintain the McAdam lead. The Lakers were awarded another penalty kick a few minutes later but Natalie Bernard's attempt was stopped.

The teams traded close calls as a sliding block from Jorja Bernard stopped a McAdam breakaway. Later, Glaspy and Anderson, supported by MacElwain who played forward for the second half, had the ball alone in front of the net but were called back for offside.

The Lakers managed to tie the game late on another penalty kick off the foot of Glaspy. But McAdam responded quickly with their third goal of the afternoon and were able to hold off the Lakers' late charge to take the win.



The SR Girls in action against FCA. Photo: Ara Henry

The Senior girls finished the tournament 1-1-1, beating the host Fredericton Christian Academy (FCA) Friday night and playing to a draw against Minto Saturday morning. Their season kicks off with a visit to Sussex Christian School Wednesday at 5:30pm.