

Ladies rugby kicks off at The Gables

The sun was shining over The Gables and excitement rippled throughout as the ladies first XV were about to partake in their first ever league match. The Westcliff ladies were set to play the formidable Pulborough Ladies who were playing in the league for the second year. A great home crowd for the ladies' first home game was in full force and the game begun with Westcliff having to match Pulborough's fourteen players.

After just six minutes Pulborough had scored their first try with another to follow in quick succession. Just before half time Westcliff powered through and their hooker Jade Smith scored a try for the home side. The second half was a tough one for Westcliff as they had to match numbers with Pulborough again due to a further two injuries. Pulborough managed to find the gaps in the defensive line and speed their way through scoring a further five tries with the final score being a 43-5 win to Pulborough.

New players had their debut on the pitch for Westcliff with many not having been part of a rugby team or even having picked up a rugby ball weeks before. Lots was learnt from this first league match and the Ladies team are going to come back stronger, tougher and more determined when they play Pulborough later on in the season.

Written by Poppy Smith