

## **JET POWER**

### COACH'S CORNER (Coach Natalie's opinion on the game)

#### 2-1 win over the Somerset Hills Strikers April 20, 2008

What a great game! We played with heart and it showed. While the Power maintained possession most of the game, the other team played a high pressure defense pushing large numbers up and playing the ball long in hopes of a defensive error. We had an incredible effort by our defensive back line of Nicole, Nadine, Jackie, and Nita. Each girl went one v. one with the very skilled opposing players and every time succeeded in winning the ball cleanly. Brit kept the whole team calm (except me when she ventured waaayyy outside the box!) with her vocalness and came out to clear the ball at key moments. Taylor controlled the middle of the field, simple as that! We started to get sucked too much into one side, causing us frustration, but with a few adjustments, we starting playing the whole width of the field and our outside mids, Lizzie and Megan, used the open space generating some very dangerous crosses.

Not putting our heads down, we kept knocking at the door and finally late in the first half, we finished an easy goal. From the middle of the field, we got the ball wide, drawing out the defenders, and then beautifully crossed to the goal where Kelsey got in great position and essentially passed the ball into an open net. Second half, we came out strong. Again it was a tight battle. We had a couple of close calls but could never quite finish till later in the second half where we finally sealed the deal with a goal by Megan. There was only one defensive error on a great free kick by the opposing team, with a bit of a mishandle and defensive lapse, they put one in with a few minutes left in the half. We however maintained our composure and finished the game without giving them anymore opportunities to equalize.

Overall, I was very impressed with our smaller players, Kelsey, Elise and Camryn, and their strength. They maintained possession of the ball even while much larger players were defending them. We continue to be successful with bringing the ball wide then crossing it, mostly thanks to our tenacious midfield and the finishing ability of our forwards. We'll continue to work on getting to the ball first and bringing it down while maintaining possession and getting better with each game.

*Cheers, Coach Natalie*

