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Press Release

## **CRC GIRLS WIN TOURNAMENT WITH ‘FANTASTIC’ FOOTBALL SKILLS**

Cambridge Regional College’s girls’ football team proved they were more than a match for the adults when they won the Clacton 7s Ladies’ Tournament at the weekend.



CRC’s successful girls’ football team after winning the Clacton tournament

The girls – who normally play against Under 18s sides – were the youngest players by far, but stamped their authority on the tournament from the beginning with some fantastic football.

They won four games and drew one on the first day, scoring nine goals and conceding none, and qualifying for the 'A' Division finals – a group format with the top two teams playing in the final.

CRC came second in the group, which included teams of the calibre of Derby County Ladies, with two wins, two draws and one loss.

In the final the girls were up against Ware, a side which included Charlton Athletic, Luton Town and Tottenham players. But CRC took the lead, winning convincingly 2-0, with a stunning free kick from Natalie Richardson and a long range effort from Kelly Docwra.

Jon Burridge, CRC Sports Studies lecturer and manager of the team, said: "I cannot express how proud I am of the girls, who conducted themselves professionally throughout the two days and played some fantastic football.

"This achievement is all the more remarkable when you consider the girls were playing against ladies teams rather than the U18 teams they are used to playing against. I feel this is a fantastic way to sign off the season.

"There should be a special mention for two players: Steph Tirrel, our stand-in goalkeeper who only conceded two goals in 11 games (one of which was a penalty) and the Manager's Player of the Tournament, captain Chelsea Prouten who was a rock at the back and led by example."

The squad list for the tournament was Kelly Docwra, Honor Freeman, Sophie Hopkin, Jenna Payne, Chelsea Prouten, Natalie Richardson, Becky Taylor, Steph Tirrel and Sophie Young. The goal-scorers were Natalie Richardson 6, Becky Taylor 4, Kelly Docwra 3, Sophie Hopkin 2 and Honor Freeman 1.

The tournament win comes on top of a very successful season for the girls – they won the British Colleges Division 1B, where they were unbeaten, and reached the last 16 of the National College Cup, where they lost on penalties, scoring 96 goals in the process and conceding 10.

The girls have won promotion and next year will compete against sides such as Chelsea, Arsenal, Colchester and Portsmouth academies.

The season's goal-scorers were: Natalie Richardson 33, Becky Taylor 27, Sophie Hopkin 15, Kelly Docwra 11, Gemma Clark 5, Steph Tirrel 2, Honor Freeman, 2, Marie Yates 1 and Sophie Young 1.

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#### **MEDIA ENQUIRIES:**

For more information, please contact Lynn O'Shea, PR & Events Co-ordinator, on 01223 418773 or email [loshea@camre.ac.uk](mailto:loshea@camre.ac.uk)

#### **NOTES TO EDITORS**

Cambridge Regional College is the second largest provider of full-time education for 16 to 19 year-olds in the eastern region. The College has around 3,500 full-time and 6,000 part-time students. Students come in from a 40-mile radius, covering Cambridge and its surrounding villages, eastern Bedfordshire, northern Essex and western Suffolk.

Over 80 per cent of full-time students are aged 16 to 18 years old and come to the College after secondary school; the rest are mature students, studying on a range of Access to Higher Education and vocational programmes. The College offers the largest and most comprehensive range of vocational courses in Cambridgeshire, and has one of the largest Train to Gain contracts in the Eastern Region.