



# Luton Town Ladies F.C.



## Saturday January 21st 2012 League Cup Match Luton Town 2 - Bedford 1

# Two Late Goals As Town Progress To The Final

Wow ,what a pulsating nerve wracking finger nail biting cup semi final this was as two teams desperate for the win gave us a real humdinger of a game that really didn't deserve a losing team.

With two evenly matched teams right from the kick off you sensed this game was going to go to the wire and the opening half shots on goal would suggest that.

The nearest Luton came was after two minutes as Taylor was inches away from adding to her tally this season firing powerfully from range just a matter of an inch or so over the bar.



After this, chances were few and far between although Bedford did have a good opening to score themselves as they're attacker tried to take advantage of the wind with an ambitious effort from just inside the Luton half. Thankfully on this occasion the ball went just wide, but it was a wake up call for the girls and one which they duly observed because the second half they came out a rejuvenated team.

Half time Luton 0 Bedford 0

Within seconds of the restart Luton began to turn the screw and Natalie was highly unlucky as she just missed the target from inside the box creating space for herself with her intelligent runs which we have so become used to this season.

More was to follow as the lively Natalie came even closer several minutes later with a thunderbolt shot from outside the area which the Bedford keeper could only watch agonisingly strike the crossbar and bounce out to

safety. As Luton were ruing they're hard luck in front of goal, Bedford decided to up their tempo and it was a telling moment as the Bedford forward broke free up front with an excellent run creating space for herself inside the box and firing low to Maddies left. It had goal written all over it but Maddie was fully equal to it getting strong hands to it to send it out for the corner.

Game on now you would suggest with both teams creating chances in front of goal and if any team was going to open the scoring, now would be the time to do it with the clock running down.....

Bedford duly obliged midway through the second half, and in fairness it was a goal they fully deserved as they took advantage of the wind again striking low past Maddie into the bottom corner possibly aided with a deflection too.

The girls were now in unfamiliar territory a goal down on home soil and quite possibly crashing out of the cup. The goal seemed to inspire Bedford however and they were now playing more fluently and should have really added to their goals column when their striker struck the post instead of the back of the net which would have surely seen the game off for Luton.

Then came the finale though as all seemed lost for the girls. Late Luton pressure resulted in a corner expertly taken by Tyler and Nat did the rest as the fox in a box somehow turning in from the tightest of angles.



You could sense the relief on the sidelines because as good as the girls have played this season, you just had the impression that lady luck was not going to be on their side today.

The girls were not finished however as chances at either end went astray , the most notable falling to Molly as she blasted just wide with seconds remaining.

There was just enough time for Luton to earn themselves another corner in the final stages of the match and this was the one that settled the match in similar circumstances to the first.



Again Tyler took the inch perfect corner and then Step forward Charlotte Motto who herself was the fox in the box on this occasion expertly driving home from inside the six yard box finished with aplomb into the top corner of the net away from the keepers grasp.

What a way to end the game and if anybody deserved the goal today it was Charlotte for her hard work and endeavour not just today but in previous weeks too.

Final score Luton ladies 2 Bedford 1.

Girls of the match

Molly- Excellent performance only lacking a goal on today's display. Gave the Bedford defenders a torrid time all game.

Taylor-Took the game by the scruff of the neck in the second half and coincided with Luton's two late goals. Outstanding passing too .