



MATCH REPORT

Thunderbirds 4 Vs Sharks

18/09/2019

POM: Kara Gill (Elements Fire)

POM: Jenny Hewison (Thunderbirds 4)

A clear evening for the second game of the season saw Sharks win the toss and take the centre from the whistle. A strong start saw some great balls into the circle straight into the capable hands of both GA - L and GS - Lisa who both shot fantastically throughout the game, with the occasional wobble. Thunderbirds narrowly missed out on a goal seconds beforehand.

As play settled, Thunderbirds started to capitalise on their own centres and great movement all the way down court from TB WA – Mia (who had a well fought game against a tough WD of Clare) and TB C – Charlotte saw the ball into the circle and goals scored by TB GS - Jenny and GA - Erin who also, despite a few wobbles, both had their eye in and shots on target closing the lead Sharks had strongly started with. Thunderbirds were leading 3-2 but despite the best efforts of both defence and shooters, the quarter ended on a tie of 4-4.

No changes for the second quarter for either team. Sharks went out strong and made some excellent interceptions, which were capitalised on with excellent balls into the circle from WA – Kate and C – Amy, to allow a small margin of a lead. Thunderbirds had some great play down court, with great marking and interceptions from all players, however, were finding it difficult to capitalise on the shots due to the formidable defence of Sharks GD – Lydia and GK – Sarah whose fingers were tipping everything just out of Thunderbirds reach. A well fought quarter, that ended 12-8 to sharks.

A switch in defence between GD and GK for Sharks and a switch in GA and GS for Thunderbirds saw the start of the 3rd quarter. GK – Izzy O'S, GD – Izzy S and WD – Rachel (who had already been to athletics!) made some crucial interceptions down court and forced play out of court, which accompanied by the change in position and movement of GS – Erin and GA – Jenny allowed for great conversions. However, despite their best efforts, Sharks strong defence supporting the attack and their continuous movement onto the ball allowed them to gain a further lead despite GK and GD (Izzy x 2) best efforts to intercept the high ball. Thunderbirds passion and fight was shining through and the third quarter ended 18-11 to sharks.

The final quarter saw no changes for either team, both feeling they had got into a good flow and raring to take on the last 10 minutes. Sharks started the final quarter and the strong partnership of the team allowed continued goal scoring opportunities. However, an exciting final quarter for Thunderbirds who managed to keep sharks to only 4 goals (the least for the game) and score 2 more of their own! Final moments saw both teams continue to fight until the final whistle with great enthusiasm and energy, and the game was a great one all round. The final whistle saw Sharks win 22-13, meaning Thunderbirds came away with a point and some great learning opportunities ready for next time

Final Score: Thunderbirds 4 13- 22 Sharks