

Messenger

Sending off is spark for Fletcher Moss cup final turnaround

From the archive, first published Wednesday 24th May 2006.

YOU don't always get what you deserve in football and this result only proves the point.

Despite Winsford Ladies being the better team, they came away empty handed from the final of the Cheshire and Manchester Women's League Challenge Cup in front of a crowd of nearly 200 supporters, both teams cancelled each other out in the opening 20 minutes with both defences on top.

Fletcher Moss had the best chance on the half hour and were unlucky to hit the crossbar and the post.

At the other end, some good football from Winsford resulted in a great opportunity for Michaela Thompson, but she could only hit the side netting.

Then, right on the stroke of half time, Danielle Lydiate hit an absolute screamer from 40 yards that flew into the goal to give Winsford the lead.

Moss drew level on 55 minutes, but Winsford remained the better side and looked more likely to score the winner until a collision between Winsford keeper Lucy Presland and the opposition striker resulted in a penalty. But justice was done when the Moss striker missed the spot kick.

On 71 minutes Winsford got the breakthrough when a superb through ball from Kylie Kettle found Laura Renshaw in space and she applied the finish to give Winsford the lead.

Sadly that was as good as it got for Winsford as, on 76 minutes, the Winsford keeper was sent off for a foul outside the box and Moss equalised from the free kick.

Even with 10 players Winsford were the better side as the game entered extra time.

But it was Fletcher Moss who grabbed the winner which came five minutes into the second period.

Despite the defeat the Winsford team can be proud of an excellent performance and they need just one point from their final game of the season, at home to Bury, to secure promotion to the North West Counties League.