

Girls Football

Hawks Girls win State Championship

For the second time in 4 years the Under 15 girls from Harristown's Football Academy have won the Bill Turner Cup State Championship, defeating arch rivals Cavendish Road 2-1 in the final. A national knockout competition involving over 500 teams from Qld, NSW, Victoria and WA, the girls now progress to the National finals in Newcastle in September.

Following solid wins against Albany Creek (3-1) and Kawana (4-0) the Hawks girls went into the final in good form and knowing they were a side capable of scoring goals. Cavendish Road were the favourites having won the trophy 6 of the previous 8 years.

The Hawks started the final very nervously and nearly conceded in the first minute with goalkeeper Kelly Williams pulling off a great save low to her right. Her fingertip save cannoned off the post to safety. From there the rest of the half was an arm wrestle with the Hawks girls probably having the best of the opportunities. The speed of Amber Jennings and Abbey Lloyd was causing all sorts of problems and both hit the woodwork in the half. Nikeehsa Hansen also went close despite having to move to midfield to cover the injured Caitlin Barclay.

The girls suffered a hammer blow on the stroke of half time. Undoing all their good work they conceded a cheap free kick 30m from goal. The defense was unable to clear the ball and goalkeeper Williams could only watch on as the Cavendish Road striker popped the ball over her head into the back post.

Despite going behind for the first time in the campaign the Hawks girls rallied around each other at half time and as the game wore on in the second half superior fitness started to weigh in the Hawks favour. Amber Jennings was twice able to get into space behind the Cavendish Road defense and slotted both chances calmly into the back of the net - the last goal with 4 minutes on the clock.

The final score was 2-1 to Harristown, a scoreline identical to the one in 2006. Coach Sarah Bull gathered the girls around at the end of the game and was full of praise for her young squad. "The most satisfying thing about that win was the fact that the girls embodied everything that the program stood for in the second half. They had courage, determination and above all, every player had the attitude Never say Die. It's just reward for all those 7.30 am starts in winter".

The National semi finals begin on the 7th of September with a likely semi final against Illawarra Sports High being the first hurdle.

Congratulations and well done to all the girls!
Broady and Bully

Boys Football

The Junior Hawks 'Bill Turner' cup competition came to a premature end this year. After defeating Toowoomba Grammar in the regional final the boys were defeated by Brisbane Grammar in the state quarter final. After dominating the game the Hawks found themselves locked at 1-1 when the whistle signalled the end of regulation time. The game went into sudden death extra time where Brisbane scored the golden goal to knock Harristown out of the competition.

While disappointed not to have progressed further into the competition the boys can be extremely proud of their efforts finishing 2009 as the South West Regional Champions.

Congratulations to all the Mr Wilkes and all the boys for their effort in 2009.

Until next week

Ian Brackstone
Sports Co-ordinator