

Schools cups updates [posted 20/06/14]



Tim Hart writes, "This week has seen the culmination of all four of the Cricket Scotland school cup competitions. The west region had representatives present at the finals day of each event - with each school displaying some great skills, putting in a great effort and representing the west with pride.

"*National Girls' Secondary School Cup* - Eastwood High School, Holyrood Secondary School and Kyle Academy were the three west schools to participate. This was the first year of the new Cricket Scotland competition, so to have three of the seven schools who attended the event coming from the west region was a great effort - and my thanks goes to all those (players and coaches) who made the day so successful. In terms of the day's play, Kyle Academy were the most impressive performers - recording a second place finish...and only losing out to a much more experienced George Watson's College team in the grand final.

"*National Secondary School Cup* - The Glasgow Academy were the west region school that made it through to finals day. In their semi-final, despite 30 from Ruairidh Russell (Glasgow Accies CC), eventual tournament winners, George Watson's College, proved to be too strong - the Edinburgh school chasing 91 in under thirteen overs to record an eight-wicket win. The third/fourth place play-off was a much different affair - with The Glasgow Academy recording a comfortable 55-run victory: 120 for 7 defeating 65 for 8.

"*National Primary Schools Cup* - unfortunately, two of the three west region qualifiers were not able to attend finals day. This left Hutchesons' Grammar School as the sole representative, and it performed very well. During the morning they finished in second place in their group. They won two of their three group matches - and only missed out on winning their group by 5 runs on net runs scored. The afternoon saw two rounds of placement games. Hutchesons' Grammar School won the first of these, before suffering a narrow loss in their final game of the day. Overall, it was a sixth place finish - an impressive return for a squad that had very little experience of playing competitive Kwik Cricket prior to entering the regional qualifying event.

"*Cricket Factory Cup* - Having finished first and second in the west regional event, both Kyle Academy and Lomond School travelled to Perth. And, after five rounds of matches on finals day, the schools recreated their impressive performances in the regional event by finishing in first and second places in the national event too. The match between the two schools proved to be the difference in the competition - with Lomond School (207) defeating Kyle Academy (142). Both schools can be immensely proud of their efforts and the way they represented themselves and the west region. Congratulations to both schools - but especially to Lomond School (pictured above) who are the 2014 *Cricket Factory Cup* Winners."

Cricket Factory Cup [posted 05/06/14]



Tim Hart writes, "Seven schools from across the west region came together to take part in the west regional qualifying tournament in the 2014 Cricket Factory Schools Cup. The cup, which is a softball version of the game, saw schools travel to Titwood in Glasgow (Clydesdale CC) from as far away as Dumfries and Rothesay. The seven schools were split into a group of four and a group of three - with two games taking place on the outfield and one on the artificial hockey pitch and the winners of each group qualifying for the National Finals Day. Group A saw Mearns Castle High School (East Renfrewshire) defeat St. Joseph's College (Dumfries & Galloway) by only 9 runs and Lomond School win their Argyll & Bute clash with Rothesay Academy in convincing fashion. Round two saw wins for Lomond School and St. Joseph's College. This meant that both of the final round games had the potential to affect which school won the group. Mearns Castle High School beat Rothesay Academy by only 4 runs - in the closest finish of the day. However, it was Lomond School that confirmed their place in the tournament final - and their trip to Perth - by beating St. Joseph's College by 16 runs.

"The tournament draw saw Holyrood Secondary School (Glasgow), Kyle Academy (South Ayrshire) and St. Columba's School (Inverclyde) meet in Group B. During each rotation, two schools played a game while the third made use of a Cricket Factory Core Skills Set. Round one saw Kyle Academy make great use of the 'scoring zones', which saw 10 runs awarded on each occasion the zone was hit, as they recorded a comprehensive win over St. Columba's School - with the highest team total of the day! The round two match between Holyrood Secondary School and St. Columba's School was a much closer affair - but one won by Holyrood Secondary School. This set up a winner-takes-all final match in which Kyle Academy continued their high scoring - and ensured they made it through to Perth. There was still just enough time for a fourth round of fixtures. This saw Kyle Academy win the overall qualifying event. Congratulations to all schools for showing such commitment to travel to attend the event and to all school staff, helpers and local cricket clubs who have provided support to the schools. Thanks must go to Clydesdale CC and groundsman Cyril McLatchie for hosting the event and to *Western Warriors* Under 18 player Ahmad Chaudhry for his support on the day."

School cricket update [posted 04/06/14]

Tim Hart reports, "The Glasgow Academy ("TGA") have won the west regional qualifying section of the Cricket Scotland National Secondary Schools' Cup. TGA confirmed their place on Finals' Day following a close two-wicket win over Hutchesons' Grammar School ("HGS"), at Titwood (Clydesdale CC), on Tuesday the 3rd of June. Hutchesons' batted first and were immediately on the backfoot, thanks to two early wickets from John Oliver (Glasgow Accies CC). Wickets continued to fall regularly as four of the five TGA bowlers took wickets - with Rick Mukhophadyay (Glasgow Accies CC) taking 3 for 24, including taking two wickets in two deliveries during his second over. However, one player stood in the way of the TGA effort as Luke Macias (Clydesdale CC) produced a fantastic innings when his side really needed someone to 'step up'. There were five boundaries, one maximum and a series of well-placed and well-run twos. Macias brought up his 50 with a pull shot for six - before being the last batter out, in the final over, while trying to show some invention to add to his side's total. HGS 93

all out. TGA needed to get off to solid start to continue to press home their advantage. What they got was far more than that, as Oliver and Arman Khan (Glasgow Accies CC) defended the good deliveries and punished the poor ones. The pair hit three sixes and four fours in the first seven overs as TGA raced to 44 for no wicket. However, given the excellent job both were doing, there were two slightly careless run outs that saw both batters dismissed for well-made 20s - although one was due to a direct hit, at the bowler's end, from Macias who raced in from point to throw the stumps down. There then followed a tense nine overs where TGA did just enough to remain as favourites - but HGS kept taking wickets (including two outstanding catches) just often enough to give themselves an outside chance of winning. With four overs to go, 10 runs were needed, with only two wickets remaining. The situation remained as it really had done from over seven - TGA just had to bat the overs and they would win the game. Despite the best efforts of the bowlers and fielders, Alastair Thorrington (Clydesdale CC) steered his side to victory - keeping a cool head to score a vital 8*. Congratulations, and good luck, to TGA who will now go on to represent the west in the National Finals' Day, on Tuesday the 17th of June, in Perth."

Schools cricket update [posted 30/05/14]

Tim Hart reports, "The Glasgow Academy have confirmed their place in the regional final of the Cricket Scotland National Secondary Schools' Cup. This follows wins over Wellington School and The High School of Glasgow. In their first round tie, against Wellington School, The Glasgow Academy batted first and scored 107 for 4 off their twenty overs. This total was thanks to 42 from Jamie Percival (Glasgow Accies CC) and 30 from John Oliver (Glasgow Accies CC). In reply, Percival was also in the wickets - taking 3 for 22. However, the game looked like going down to the wire thanks to 49 from Matthew Davidson (Ayr CC). But the difference would prove to be a hat-trick from Greg MacMillan (Glasgow Accies CC).

"The Glasgow Academy found the going much easier against The High School of Glasgow in the regional semi-final. Percival was again in the wickets (with 5 for 9) and he had good support from Ruairidh Russell (Glasgow Accies CC) who took 4 for 8. All this left The High School bundled out for only 31 - a total which the Glasgow West End neighbours chased for the loss of no wicket. Congratulations to The Glasgow Academy who now progress to play Hutchesons' Grammar School in the west regional final, at Clydesdale CC's Titwood ground in Glasgow, on Tuesday the 3rd of June, starting at 2pm."

School cricket update [posted 29/05/14]

Tim Hart reports, "Hutchesons' Grammar School have confirmed their place in the west regional section final of the Cricket Scotland National Secondary Schools' Cup. In their semi-final against Holyrood Secondary School, they batted first and scored 108 for 9 off their twenty overs. Their total was based around a well-paced, but powerful, innings from Sam Cole (Prestwick CC) - who top-scored with 54. In reply, Holyrood Secondary School finished 56 all out - as they had no answer to Tarun Koteeswaran (Clydesdale CC) who picked up 4 for 16 from his four overs."

Glasgow qualifying tournament in the Cricket Scotland National Primary Schools' Cup [posted 29/05/14]



This tournament took place at Titwood (Clydesdale CC) yesterday, Wednesday the 29th of May, and Tim Hart reports. "There were three schools that attended: Aitkenbar Primary School, Hutchesons' Grammar School and The Glasgow Academy. The Tournament was played in a round robin format - with the school not playing in each round making use of a *Cricket Factory* Core Skills Set to challenge themselves at batting, bowling, catching and throwing. The players from all three schools showed great enthusiasm for the event. As you hope in this "Kwik Cricket" format of the game, there was plenty of cleaning striking and boundaries from the batters, lots of great diving and sliding stops from the fielders and some very impressive bowling. In the end, Hutchesons' Grammar School emerged as the winners of the tournament and they will now progress through to the National Finals Day, in Perth, during June. Congratulations to Hutchesons' Grammar School, and thanks to all three schools and all the players for their efforts on the day. Thanks too *Western Warriors* Under 15s players Zain Ashraf and Owain Taylor for umpiring the event."

School cricket update [posted 16/05/14]

[Tim Hart](#) writes, "Thursday the 15th of May saw the latest fixture in the Cricket Scotland National Secondary Schools' Cup take place. Holyrood Secondary School were the hosts, in a game against St. Ninian's High School. Batting first, the St. Ninian's top order took a very watchful approach - choosing to give their innings a

good base to attack from. The lower order then showed good acceleration to take their total up to 84 for 7 off their 20 overs. In reply, Holyrood took a more aggressive approach - and were always comfortably ahead of the required run-rate. The only question surrounded whether or not they would be bowled out - and the game looked to be well balanced at 50 for 6 after eight overs. However, Holyrood held their nerve - finishing 85 for 7 in just under fifteen overs. But credit must go to all the players and school staff for the effort they put in to the fixture. Holyrood now progress to face Hutchesons' Grammar School in one of the regional semi-finals."

National Secondary Schools' Cup update [posted 14/05/14]



[Tim Hart](#) reports, "Tuesday the 13th of May saw the High School of Glasgow host Eastwood High School in the first round of the Cricket Scotland National Secondary Schools' Cup. Batting first, Eastwood scored 102 for 2 in their 20 overs. The backbone of their innings was provided by Calum James (Poloc CC) who batted through for 43*.

"In reply, the High School always kept themselves just ahead of the required rate. They eventually completed their win with an over to spare - with the innings finishing fittingly, Callum Coats (West of Scotland CC), who had batted through for 42*, driving the winning run down the ground."

Cricket Scotland National Secondary Schools' Cup update [posted 10/05/14]

[Tim Hart](#) reports, "The first fixture in the west regional qualifying competition in the Cricket Scotland National Secondary Schools' Cup has now been completed. Despite the recent spell of poor weather, which caused the postponement of the planned Holyrood Secondary versus St. Ninian's High fixture on Wednesday the 7th of May, Hutchesons' Grammar and St. Columba's did manage to get their game completed - albeit using an indoor sportshall! Hutchesons' scored 145 all out - batting for 11.4 of the fourteen overs that both schools agreed to play. Their innings was based around 45 from Luke Macias (Clydesdale CC) before he was run out to end the innings. The pick of the St. Columba's bowlers was Jamie Love (Greenock CC), with Alex Wilson (Greenock CC) taking three smart catches and having a direct hit run out too! In reply, St Columba's batted resolutely - scoring 68 runs while not being bowled out. While a one-off cup tie, the fixture did provide the opportunity for the schools to link up - with discussions taking place about the possibility of arranging further year group fixtures in the future. The competition will continue this week with The High School of Glasgow playing Eastwood High on Tuesday, and with Thursday seeing Holyrood and St. Ninian's making another attempt at playing their tie - both fixtures weather permitting!"

Schools cricket news [posted 04/04/14]

The draw for the west regional qualifying section of the 2014 Cricket Scotland National Secondary Schools' Cup was released this morning. The section will see eight schools compete, in a straight knock-out format, with the sectional winner going on to represent the west at the national Finals Day on Tuesday the 17th of June. The draw can be found [online](#) here.