

Junior report 2014 WDCU AGM

It is a pleasure to produce my second annual report as Chairman.

Keith Young's and Colin Dawson's reports adequately highlight the winners and runners-up in the various age-group leagues/B leagues, as well as the Under 13 League Cup and my congratulations are added to the winning clubs and teams.

In terms of cup competitions the Frank Smith Trophy has been held over to 2015 due to inclement weather with Ayr, Clydesdale, Ferguslie and Poloc in the semi-finals. Reflecting on the national trophies at Under 13 level both the ECB and Scottish competitions saw Clydesdale representing the West district losing both semi-finals but beating Falkland comfortably in the ECB to finish 3rd. In the Under 15 Scottish Cup West of Scotland reached the semi-finals of the ECB losing to Grange but finished third by beating Watsonians and in the ECB Clydesdale reached the semi-finals only to lose to a strong Grange team again. In the Under 18 Scottish Cup Ayr reached the semi-finals before being soundly beaten by Heriot's.

Beyond the club scene there were Area, District and Academy games. Congratulations to North Glasgow on winning the Under 12 and 14 Inter-Area competitions. The Under 12 age group was hard fought with two very tight games early on between North Glasgow and Ayrshire followed by Clyde Sharks against South Glasgow. However, the Under 14 competition saw only one game completed rendering the competition a waste of time and energy hence the reason for proposals to change the set-up next year.

There were a number of players who represented Scotland and senior representative teams at various age groups. Congratulations are due to the successful Scotland Under 15 squad who won the ECB cup (managed by our own Sam Scott). Representatives from the West included

Under 15 Scotland players: Ihtisham Malik and Owais Shah (Poloc CC)

Under 17 Scotland players: Muhammad Azeem (Kilmarnock CC), Neil Flack (Greenock CC), Adil Ghaffar (Clydesdale CC), Mitchell Rao (Prestwick CC), Owais Shah (Poloc CC)

Under 19 Scotland players: Muhammad Azeem (Kilmarnock CC), Hamza Tahir (Ferguslie CC)

Under 17 Scotland women player: Abtaha Maqsood (Poloc CC)

Reivers Pro team players: Niall Alexander (Dumfries CC), Hamza Tahir (Ferguslie CC)

Scotland A player: Hamza Tahir (Ferguslie CC)

The most disappointing aspect for me was the number of concessions which reached a record level of 66 including a staggering 30 at the Under 11 age group and is something we all need to address which is why there are proposals for certain changes to rules surrounding concessions. It is particularly disappointing during a good summer weather wise and clubs need to think carefully about their junior set up and the impact concessions is having on other clubs across the region. For some teams two age-groups on one night would appear to be too many, and clubs need to be realistic about at what age-groups they can enter teams.

In closing a word of thanks to all WJDCU committee members and in particular Keith Young for the excellent website and admin' surrounding it, including fixtures.

Thank you.

Dougie Johnstone
WDJCU Chairman