

Chairman's Report, 2015

Welcome to everyone in what has been another challenging cricket season particularly weather wise. I'd like to start by extending my thanks to everyone in here for their efforts as from experience and conversations with various coaches and convenors I know how much more difficult a job Junior Convenor/coach is increasingly becoming in today's modern society. To me it is the most difficult but ultimately most important role in a Cricket Club as without you guys clubs would cease to exist.

In terms of summing up the season congratulations to all league winners which are as follows. Under 18 - Ayr, Under 16B - Hillhead, Under 15 - Clydesdale, Under 13 - Clydesdale, Under 13B (southside) - Prestwick, Under 11 - joint winners Poloc and Glasgow Accies. Unfortunately due to inclement weather the Under 11 finals day did not take place so it was agreed to award jointly to the two regional winners. Kwik cricket festivals are an issue due to weather and poor participation amongst other factors.

In terms of cup competitions completion of the Frank Smith Trophy has been held over to 2016 due again to inclement weather with Ayr, Clydesdale, Glasgow Accies and Greenock in the semi-finals, but the 2014 was completed with Poloc the winners in a thrilling final versus v Clydesdale.

The Under 13 League Cup was won by Clydesdale with the runners up Glasgow Accies.

Reflecting on the national trophies, at Under 13 in the ECB Club Championship Clydesdale were runners-up. In the Under 13 Scottish Cup Clydesdale finished third, winning the third/fourth play-off on Finals Day.

At Under 15 in the ECB Club Championship Poloc finished third, winning the third/fourth play-off on Finals Day. In the Under 15 Scottish Cup Clydesdale were winners, beating Arbroath United in the final.

And, in the Under 18 Scottish Cup Clydesdale were runners-up to Forfarshire.

From the Indoor Super 8s during Christmas 2014 Ferguslie won the Under 19s, Clydesdale the Under 15s and Ayr the Under 12s. Thanks to Tim in particular for the organisation of this before, and during, the tournament.

Beyond the club scene there were Inter-Area, Challenge Series and Western Warriors games. The set up changed from 2014 and Tim Hart's report will highlight this. Pleasingly both the Western Warriors Under 15s and Western Warriors Under 18s won their respective inter-regional championships.

In terms of juniors it was also good to see a number of players from the west representing Scotland at various age levels including the successful Under 19 squad who qualified for the ICC U19 World Cup by winning Europe Division 1 which involved beating Ireland by 83 runs in the last game to ensure qualification. The team was successfully led by Greenock's Neil Flack. Representatives throughout the age groups from the West included

Under 15 Scotland players: Zain Ashraf, Jack Bradburn, Angus Guy, Robbie McCallum, Aliyan Qureshi, Ihtesham Ul Haq and Louis Ware

Under 17 Scotland players: Adil Ghaffar, Shujaa Khan, Ihtisham Malik, Robbie McCallum and Owais Shah.

Under 19 Scotland players: Muhammed Azeem, Neil Flack, Adil Ghaffar, Ihtisham Malik, Mitchell Rao and Owais Shah.

Under 17 Scotland women players: Abtaha Maqsood, Isabel Ralphs, Ellen Watson and Zoe Young.

Neil Flack was also selected for the Scotland Development XI side that played the Yorkshire Academy, and Abataha Maqsood was capped for Scotland Women.

The number of concessions was down considerably sitting at 'only' 26 down by 40 from the previous year. You will be aware that the Committee have suggested possible changes of structure and this was put out for consultation in October. Hopefully the rationale behind this has been conveyed and the structure for 2015 will be discussed during the meeting as free-standing item on the Agenda. The Committee will then finalise structures over the winter.

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

Thank you.

Dougie Johnstone
WDJCU Chairman