



Squad Report

Hurricanes Team Name Under 9's	
Opposition Thurrock Festival	
Date 24 th Oct 2010	Location Thurrock Festival
Report Author Andy Reed	
Players Names Finlay, Charlie, Luca, James, Billy. Big Olly, Red Sam, Freddie, Sam, Thomas, Marcus	

Session/Match/Festival Report

Hi All,

Thurrock Festival Winners of the Under 9's Vase

Well that was a very long day and a real well done to both the players and also the parents who spent their entire Sunday supporting the squad on Sunday at Thurrock. (left home at 8:00AM and got back at 18:00PM)

The day was bright, a bit cool and perfect for Rugby. Our hosts had set out some good sizes pitches and we had the challenge of playing some of Essex's largest clubs, including Eton Manor, Thurrock, Chelmsford and Brentwood.

We had 4 pool games to play from which we would go through to a final. Our pool seemed to be very strong with some physically big teams which would prove to be a challenge.

Our first pool game was a very closely fought event with both team playing some very physical rugby, we went down to a single try which was not a true reflection on our commitment and effort.

Our second pool game was up against Eton Manor who had soundly beaten us last year and who had some big lads (made Theo look small) in their pack. But the Hurricanes did not take a backward step. The players all stepped up and worked as a team and we ended with a draw, which I feel surprised the Eton Manor. Special mention to Charlie and Finlay who learnt a lot about rugby in this game but held their own and, how can I say this, showed some fire when dealing with opposition forwards :-)

Our third pool game was disappointing as I feel we took our foot off the pedal and allowed the opposition to get into open field and outpace our defense on two occasions and we lost this game.

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Our fourth pool game however showed that the frustration of losing our previous game and we ran out winners by 4 clear tries to nil, best performance of the day and it is a testament to the players that I had three people from other clubs come up to me and congratulate me on the quality of our Rugby with one person saying it was the best under 9's rugby she had seen.

So we found ourselves in the Vase final and a game against a well drilled Brentwood side. The first half was ours with some fantastic play from the forwards which resulted in a 2 nil advantage after the first half. The second half was Brentwoods' as we started to ease up at the breakdown which allowed them to open up the game and score two breakaway tries. So it ended in a draw however we were awarded the game due to our better tries against record.

Well done all.

Just a couple of mentions, Freddie, James and Sam G all these guys took heavy knocks, in James's case a high tackle which resulted in a bloody nose, but they all played on and showed fantastic spirit, great job guys.

So we won a nice trophy which was given to Thomas to look after as for his first festival he played really well and is a great addition to the squad.

The one thing on the day that I feel showed how far the team has come was seeing them start to form a true team ethic, we had some excellent individual performances on the day but the really great thing was seeing players work together and help each other. It was also great to see players, who took a big knock, want to get back on the field to help the team. Nobody shirked or side stepped their responsibility to the team.

A great day

Next week we are away at the Crawley Festival. I will be sending out a note to ask for availability

Regards

Andy

Session/Match/Festival Report (Cont)

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