

SOUTH EAST REGION

Match Report: ASA Inter Regional Academy Boys (96's) Water Polo Championships

25th and 26th June 2010 at Basildon Sporting Village

The Academy Boys format of the Inter Regional Water Polo Championships comprises a two Division Mini League with each League comprising of six teams. Our Mini League opponents were West Midlands, North West Ravens, Wales, South West and Scotland. Games were two seven minutes halves and positions in this Mini League set the format for the second day's fixtures. Our squad is young and inexperienced with seven members available for next year's tournament it should prove to provide a valuable learning experience. A brief report on each game is detailed below:

Saturday 25th June 2011 Game 1 - Blue v West Midlands

The first game got off to a slow start and we never really got going seemingly leaving our A game on the motorway. We lost to a well drilled West Midlands side who played off a couple of very strong players led by their pitman who we failed to get to grips with. On an individual note James Bray put in an excellent performance in goal to keep the score down.

Final Score Lost 2 - 11

Scorers: TBA

Majors: TBA

No Match Sheets were made available at the tournament. They will be posted to the Region and I will update the report with scorers and exclusions when they are issued.

Saturday 25th June 2011 Game 2 - White v North West Ravens

A close and tense game which we could and perhaps should have won. We missed many of the chances we created amongst some very interesting refereeing decisions both ways but I'm not sure it affected the result other than some of our concentration.

Final Score Lost 5 - 6

Scorers: TBA

Majors: TBA

Saturday 25th June 2011 Game 3 - Blue v Wales

We secured our first win with a good overall squad performance. We kept our shape well against a week Welsh side and converted most of the chances we created. Again there were some interesting refereeing decisions for both sides.

Final Score Won 11 - 2

Scorers: TBA

Majors: TBA

Saturday 25th June 2011 Game 4 - Blue v South West

Our next opponents were the best side we faced all weekend and we could not handle their uncompromising pressing game linked to their fast counter attacking. They put us under a full bath press and we couldn't get the ball forward with any great conviction. This being said, we took heart from the performance, keeping the score down and it was a nice to watch and learn from the opposition which ultimately helped us progress.

Final Score Lost 4 - 14

Scorers: TBA

Majors: TBA

Saturday 25th June 2011 Game 5 - White v Scotland

Easily our best performance of a long day and we saved it to the last game of the day with our winning goal coming in the last minute of a very tight game. The lad in question shall remain nameless, but it was a good solid team effort and very pleasing to end the day with a narrow, morale boosting result.

Final Score Won 7 - 6

Scorers: TBA

Majors: TBA

We ended the day in 4th position and now faced Ireland, who finished 3rd in their league, in our first game on Sunday. The final table after Saturday's game for each group is below:-

GROUP A	
1	North West Tigers
2	North East
3	Ireland
4	London
5	East
6	East Midlands

GROUP B	
1	South West
2	West Midlands
3	North West Ravens
4	South East
5	Scotland
6	Wales

Sunday 26th June 2011 - Blue v Ireland

Following our over night stay and enjoyable evening meal something 'clicked' as we set out against this unknown opposition. It was a massive improvement on the tactics that we had endeavoured to employ during yesterday's games. Ireland was the third nation we had faced during this tournament and we could be considered unlucky to lose this game having failed to convert many of the great chances that we created. Losing by one goal, we concede a penalty with 0.01 seconds remaining to provide a false reflection on the final score.

Final Score Lost 3 - 5

Scorers: TBA

Majors: TBA

Sunday 26th June 2011 – White v North West Ravens

Following our close tussle during yesterday's game we had the chance to reverse that result so that we could end the weekend on a high. We converted three of our early chances in the first half and were always in control of the game and ended up comfortable 4 – 2 winners. We ended the Tournament in 7th Place overall having improved massively from the day before.

Final Score Won 4 - 2

Scorers: TBA

Majors: TBA

James Bray was voted by the other teams in Group B as the Most Valuable Player of our team and he was presented with his award after this game.

Full Squad

James Bray(GK); Ben Goddard; Joe Hazeldine; Nathan Jones; James O'Dell; Daniel James; James Masson; Oliver Waldram; Luke Riley; Ryan Brown; Jacob Burden; Jack Taylor and Sam Wildman

Well done to all the boys, it's been a long, constructive and gruelling weekend, here's hoping they've all enjoyed it.