

Number 9

With A Little Help From My Friends

September 2011

U14TOURNAMENT REPORT TOURNAMENTU14 FC CHIPPENHAM YOUTH -14/05/11 U14TOURNAMENT REPORT TOURNAMENTU14

Team – Harry, Reece, Ben M, Aaron, George, Sam, Max & Lorenzo (Captain)

There were two groups of five, with only the top two going through. We also had the winners from the three previous years, Laverstock 'A', in our group. We were the last to start and so were able to watch each team first, and knew that FC Calne 'A' should be fairly easy and so it proved, George and Lore ensuring victory 2-0. Next were Laverstock 'A' and one shot rattled our bar, but other than that it was fairly close **0-0**. Then came Robins FC, a team from Swindon. This was another tight affair and again we drew, but didn't realise how costly this would be until later **0-0**. Our final game was Larkhall, and a five goal win would put us top, a draw would put us through, and as it was Aaron sealed victory near the end 1-0. Runners-up and through to face the other group winners, Laverstock 'B'. We actually had a one on one right at the start but the wind took Lore's shot away, and a high cross and a high throw were both headed in as we finally conceded Here was how the draw was costly earlier, as had we won that game, we would have won the group and played the other runners-up who lost their semi-final 5-0. leaving Laverstock to face each other! Laverstock 'B' won the final on penalties.

**Man of the Tournament –** Chosen by the players for a great display **– Aaron** 

U14TOURNAMENT REPORT TOURNAMENTU14
BITTON BOYS -21/05/11
U14TOURNAMENT REPORT TOURNAMENTU14

Team – Harry, Joel, Charlie, Reece, Ben M, Aaron, Bryn, Tom, Joe C, George, Sam, Callum, Max & Noah (Captain)

We turned up expecting 20 minute games as it was 11-a-side, only to find 10 minute Our first opposition games! Tewkesbury Covies, a team we had met before, and we were confident of victory, and two from Callum and one from Bryn saw to it 3-0. Next were Cadbury Heath, and although Harry got one touch, his first of the day, we were unable to score, although Tom's back post header was over the line by a foot according to all who were that end of the pitch **0-0**. Next were Bitton and we dominated from the start. Aaron turning in the all-important winner 1-0. Next up were our Juniors, and Callum made sure near the end and celebrated!!! with Jack Yeoman (I think they chat on And so to Tir-y-Berth Facebook) 1-0. Dynamos, and some good natured ribbing all day meant that this became a bit England v Wales, with the Welsh coming out on top **0-1**. 2<sup>nd</sup> in the group faced 3<sup>rd</sup> which turned out to be Cadbury Heath, and despite laying a bit of a siege to their goal, 10 minutes, plus an extra 6 Golden Goal saw it goalless. It went to three penalties each. They tried to change 'keepers for this but we objected on the grounds that this constituted a substitution after the whistle, which the ref agreed with as it is a Law of the Game. Keynsham's Jake Leat scored for them, but George blazed his over, then Harry saved before Noah blasted down the middle and saw it saved, meaning all they had to do was score, and the Bristol Rovers 'keeper did that 0-0 and 0-2. Bitton beat Cadbury Heath 0-0 but 2-0 on penalties in the final.

**Man of the Tournament –** Chosen by the players for a great display **– Harry** 

U14TOURNAMENT REPORT TOURNAMENTU14 FRY CLUB JFC – 29/05/11 U14TOURNAMENT REPORT TOURNAMENTU14

Colts Team – Dec, Reece, Charlie, Noah, Max, George & Callum (Captain)
Cobra Team – Harry, Joel, Josh, Aaron (Captain), Ben M, Bryn & Tom

Four groups of seven soon went up as an extra team turned up, and Andy had to hastily re-jig to get them in to the Colts' group. Ray started running both teams as Andy kept being called away, but then settled into Ray with the Colts and Andy with the Cobras. The Cobras started well against DRG Stapleton 'A' with Bryn two and Josh ensuring victory 3-1. Next were Stoke Lane 'A' and Aaron, Bryn & Tom meant another win by the same score line 3-1. After came Ingleside 'B' and Aaron & Bryn helped keep our perfect start 2-0. Bristol Central were next up and blitzed us from the start, racing into a two goal lead, but after swapping ends and regrouping, **Aaron** & **Tom** restored parity **2-2**. Our fifth group game was Southside 'A' and we never really got hold of the ball, suffering our first defeat **0-1**. Our final game was Laverstock 'B', and positionally we fell apart and they tore us asunder 0-7 in a result that I feel led to our earlier exit as we finished fourth in the group to face City 'A' who had won their group, and although we played well, they scored two and we were out 0-2. Had we lost 0-6 to Laverstock, we would have finished third, and had an easier tie, and possibly gone further. The Colts had a delayed start due to the extra team, so Stoke Lane 'B' was their first game and they lost **0-2**. They picked up against Ingleside 'A' with Reece, and four from Callum giving us victory 5-0. Next were a strong Banwell and it was goalless 0-0. Frys Wanderers were the next opponents. and they twice took the lead, first through Ben's U12 brother James, guesting as they were short, and then through a brave lunge from Jordan, before a last second winner gave us the points, Callum two and Noah scoring **3-2**. We then played Southside 'B' and Callum ensured the draw 1-1 before possibly our finest performance against Laverstock 'A' as Callum, George & Noah saw us win by the narrowest of margins 3-2. Finally our delayed opener against DRG Stapleton 'B', and we ended with a rout, Callum and George with three each, Reece and Noah with one each 8-0, and Declan even blazed a penalty over the bar. Through third and like the Cobras, facing City and their 'B' team, and they gave us no chance 0-5. Both teams out in the last 16 stage to two City teams! City 'B' beat Bristol Central 5-0 in the final.

**Men of the Tournament –** Chosen by the players for a great display **– Declan** for the Colts and **Harry** for the Cobras.

U14TOURNAMENT REPORT TOURNAMENTU14 AFC CORSHAM – 04/06/11 U14TOURNAMENT REPORT TOURNAMENTU14

Team – Harry, Aaron, Reece, Lewis, Bryn (Captain), Kai & Callum

his Lewis was making debut tournament that I have been coming to for years with this team and my first, but had never even managed to make a final. It was going to be tough as Avon, Bitton & Jamie Shore we knew about, plus there were others we didn't know. First up were ASC Youth 'A', and although they tried their best, we were just too strong, Callum getting both 2-0. Next were Avon, a game we knew would be tough and so it proved with **Bryn** helping us to take the lead, but they soon equalised 1-1. Third was Melksham United, and we already knew that a win would put us through, and Callum with both again saw us win this one Finally we played Bradford Town Youth 'B', and we knew that we had to equal Avon's result in the same game to win the group. They had won by four, but as it was Callum got five and through as group winners 5-0. The guarter final was against Bradford Town Youth 'A', and although we dominated we were unable to score, and it was heading to golden goal when Lewis opened his account for us with about three seconds to go 1-0. In the semifinal we faced Biddestone Youth, and we were obviously better than them, Lewis again making the point 1-0. And so to the final! Bitton had beaten Jamie Shore on penalties in their semi and it promised to be a close game. In the end though, although Callum just got one for us, in 12 minutes of playing Harry never touched the ball, showing how dominant we were 1-0. 2011 Winners

**Man of the Tournament –** Chosen by the players for a great display **– Lewis** 

U14TOURNAMENT REPORT TOURNAMENTU14 TEAM BATH ARSENAL – 11/06/11 U14TOURNAMENT REPORT TOURNAMENTU14

Team – Harry, Aaron, George, Bryn, Sam, Charlie (Captain), Noah & Callum

This had originally been two teams, but as it went around, more and more players said no, until eventually we had asked over 40 players. On the Thursday night we had twelve, by Friday morning ten, so I took the decision to pull one team and cancelled Dale from Spartak and Joe Fry the 'keeper. and my thanks and apologies to them. When we arrived there we knew it would be hard judging by the teams, and it was also a seven team group, with just two going First up were Robins FC from through. Swindon, and after going a goal down, fought back through Aaron & Charlie to Next were Bath Arsenal Colts win **2-1**. White, and Callum made sure of that win 1-**0**. Our third game was Bitton, and despite

peppering their goal with shots, we saw goal-line clearances and last gasp save. and couldn't score 0-0. Next were Melksham Town Saints, a game we should have easily won, but we were dysfunctional and off the pace, and when they scored, never looked like recovering, and that's how it staved **0-1**. Next were Frome Town Youth White, and Harry was never troubled as Charlie made sure 1-0. Finally Jamie Shore Orange, and we had to win by four goals to go through, however in the first half Harry twice made good saves, only for the rebounds to hit Aaron and go in (making Aaron our top-scorer on the day) and we were heading home 0-3. Jamie Shore beat Bitton 2-0 in the final.

**Man of the Tournament –** Chosen by the players for a great display – **Charlie** 

U14TOURNAMENT REPORT TOURNAMENTU14
WESTON CRUSADERS – 18/06/11
U14TOURNAMENT REPORT TOURNAMENTU14

Team – Harry, Aaron, Reece (Captain), Lewis, Bryn, Sam & Callum

We knew that this was always going to be a long day, as it's about an hour each way, and the set-up of the day also contributes to that, with two groups of five on one pitch. meaning your average break between That said, we have games is an hour. enjoyed coming here so can't complain. We set off at 8.00am and made our way down, making sure of the gazebo, as there were heavy periods of rain forecast. Our first game was against Weston Town, and they were huge and physical, but we played the better football, and despite going a goal down, came back with goals from Sam and Lewis 2-1. Next were Kewstoke 'B', and we dominated the game, **Lewis** taking the lead for us, but they got one back, and Lewis' second of the game came with just two seconds remaining 2-1. Our third game was Priory 'A', and again we dominated, but we failed to convert four or five chances. and they took their one when it came 0-1, and so we knew that a draw would put us through and a win would take us through as group winners. We played Weston Crusaders 'A', the best team here besides us, and a draw was the fair result 0-0. Into the semi-final against St George Easton In Gordano, and Callum got the early goal, and although they tried aerial bombardment near the end, we held on to reach the final Banwell had beaten Weston on penalties, and so we faced our old player Jake. For some reason however Jake lost it in this game, jumping in with studs up, deliberately bringing players down, and even squaring up, so much that three times their captain had to intervene. We were far the better team, but they took the lead, however Callum put us level. Then against the run of play they scored again, and with time running out Bryn equalised. extra-time and they took the lead for the third time, but we continued to play good football and dominate, and Callum again equalised and the game ended, and what was nice for me was that in the 30 minute final, each of the six outfield players had rotated as sub equally, and we still dominated 3-3. And so to penalties, five each to decide who would be champions. Bryn missed, they scored, Aaron scored, they scored, Harry scored, they scored, Lewis scored, they scored, and then someone said that was that. Banwell celebrated and we collected our things and started to walk over. As we did however a few people pointed out that we had only taken four each (I admit that I had not really taken note of how many) but our players were adamant, and so I mentioned this to the Weston Crusaders managers who I am friendly with. They went over and spoke to the organisers, who by now were ready to start presenting the trophies over by the main stand. After a brief discussion, both managers were called in and explained that the rules dictated five penalties each (which I was fine with), and so back across we all walked knowing that it would be a long round-trip if Callum missed! Callum scored however, and then Harry saved, taking it to sudden-death! Sam scored, and then their 'keeper missed, and suddenly we were

champions **5-4!** Banwell were understandably unhappy, however the language and behaviour of a few of their players was disgraceful, especially those two who stole the Winners medals and hid them, delaying the presentation, and then a few of them who booed, jeered and swore at us during the presentation. We thanked Weston Crusaders and left, getting home at 6.00pm, however – **2011 Winners** 

**Man of the Tournament –** Chosen by the players for a great display **– Harry** 

U14TOURNAMENT REPORT TOURNAMENTU14 STOKE LANE – 25/06/11 U14TOURNAMENT REPORT TOURNAMENTU14

Team – Harry, Aaron, Reece, Josh, Joel, George, Bryn, Charlie, Sam, Max, Ben W, Noah, Lewis & Callum

Andy had to go to his nephew's (and also Wanderers Manager's) wedding, so Ray took charge. We had lost in the final of the Shield competition last year, could we go one better? Our first game was Keynsham Town and a close game ended the way you'd expect **0-0**. Next were Avonmouth, newly promoted and looking to see what they could do, however in this game we were too strong and goals from Callum & George sealed victory 2-0. Finally we faced Avon Athletic who were flying in the group stage, and a solitary goal defeated us We were absolutely level with 0-1. Keynsham, so penalties would decide whether we progressed to the Cup or the Shield. Well names have been withheld to protect the innocent, but we didn't score anv! Into the Shield semi-final against Bromley Heath and we really hit our stride. Lewis scoring two, as well as Callum and Noah, into the Shield final for the second consecutive year **4-0**. Here we faced Avonmouth again, but we were unable to reach the heights of the group game, and they got the only goal **0-1**. Shield Runners-Up 2011.

Man of the Tournament - Chosen by the

beat Melksham Utd 1-0 in the final.

U14TOURNAMENT REPORT TOURNAMENTU14 HIGHWORTH TOWN JUNIORS – 02/07/11 U14TOURNAMENT REPORT TOURNAMENTU14

Team – Harry, Aaron, Josh, Sam, George (Captain), Bryn & Callum

An hour and a half drive to a tournament that we had never been to Highworth is on the far side of Swindon, so Dave K and I took the seven players in our cars and told them it was a long way to come just to lose in the groups (no pressure then). We started well against Eastcombe. Sam getting the important goal with a left foot shot 1-0. Next up were Highworth Town Juniors Lions, and Sam again put us into the lead, but we switched off and allowed them back into it 1-1. Next were Durrington Rangers 'A', and Josh got this one **1-0**. Our fourth game was always going to be the hardest, and so it proved as Melksham Utd beat us, although I have to say it was an even game 0-1. We were already through, but told the boys that we had to win, to keep them focussed, and they duly did, George getting the important goal against Carterton 'A' 1-0. Into the quarter finals, and we faced Chelworth. A Futsal team made up of the best players in North Wilts, including at least one Swindon Academy player, and a team who travel around local tournaments, winning them all! I think that we were the only team at the tournament not shocked when we beat them thanks to Callum and Sam. as so many teams came up and congratulated us afterwards 2-0. By this point we had built up a good rapport with Melksham and were taking turns to encourage each other into the final! We faced Liden 'B' in the semifinal, and had at least four good chances in the first three minutes, but then they came back and put us under pressure. In the end, even three more minutes Golden Goal couldn't separate us and it went to penalties 0-0. Aaron scored, they scored, Harry hit the post, they scored, Callum scored, but so did they and we were out 2-3. Liden 'B'

**Man of the Tournament –** Chosen by the players for a great display – **George** 

U14TOURNAMENT REPORT TOURNAMENTU14 BRISTOL ROVERS SUPPORTERS – 10/07/11 U14TOURNAMENT REPORT TOURNAMENTU14

Team – Harry, Aaron, Reece, George, Bryn, Ben W (Captain) & Callum

We arrived at this one, initially facing a hard day. Three groups of five, with the top two plus two best thirds going through, however Jamie Shore were here, along with Bristol Inner City Academy (BICA) with two teams, what was Rovers Supporters Saturday side last year in the Midland League. Shore had their day wrong however and had been replaced by a scratch side, and BICA were also not here, so Rovers Sunday had pulled in extra players, including а few from Bristol Rovers Academy to make up these two and the official Rovers two. With those teams gone, we knew that our good chance (we have a good team), got better. Our first game was Bradley Stoke Youth 'A', and although we dominated virtually the whole game, they caught us cold early with a back post goal. Bryn and Callum near the end salvaged the game for us 2-1. Next were Coalpit Heath, and Bryn, George and Ben made sure of this 3-0. Westfield was our third game, and their player who had caused a fuss when we played them in the County Cup carried on his old tricks, this time with George, who hadn't been with us at that game, but had faced this lot with the School. We rose above the animosity and George and Ben sealed victory 2-0. We were already through as group champions when we faced Broadwalk in the last game. and I think we all knew it as we were lethargic and slower to everything, Harry pulling off excellent saves, but they got one through and we ended with defeat **0-1**. Into the Quarter-Final against Chedder Valley, and they gave us a tough game, however Callum, then George sent us through to the Semi 2-0. Here we faced Bristol Rovers 'B', who included Billy Arnold of Bitton, Kai of Rovers Saturday and who has guested for us, and Liam Crew of Bristol Rovers Academy. Despite this we were the stronger side and led through Callum until 30 seconds into injury time when we didn't close down and they fired one through the Into Extra time Golden Goal but nothing and so to penalties. Aaron went first and scored, they scored, George scored, they scored, Callum scored, they scored, and so sudden-death where Ben scored before Harry saved and we were through to the Final 1-1 & 4-3. In the Final we faced BICA 'A' who had beaten Rovers 'A' with their academy players! dominated from the start and Callum got our first, as his throw was missed by Ben, hit the post, came back and brushed their 'keeper and went in. They all complained, but the Ref was adamant that it had touched the 'keeper, and right at the end as they attacked we broke, and Callum fired his second to seal victory 2-0. - 2011 Winners

**Man of the Tournament –** Chosen by the players for a great display **– Ben** 

U14TOURNAMENT REPORT TOURNAMENTU14 WHITCHURCH – 14/08/11 U14TOURNAMENT REPORT TOURNAMENTU14

Team – Harry (Captain), Josh, Aaron, George, Reece, Sammie, Brandon, Ben W, Tom, Lore, Max, Noah & Callum

Our last tournament of the summer, and a great way to get pre-season going. Yate 'B' had entered but not come, which meant four games of ten minutes in the group. First were North Somerset FC with only ten players, but early on they gave us however problems, as the progressed we took control and it was no surprise when Callum scored, however with a minute to go a wicked spin on the ball set them up and they took it 1-1. Our next game was Bromley Heath with three Warmley players, but we were dominant, and a great deft flick from Tom saw the ball sail into the far corner 1-0. Ashton 'B' were next, and although lively, we were superior as Noah and Lore saw us through 2-0. Finally Keynsham, and we were already through, but a point would ensure that we topped the group, with Lore getting us underway as his shot hit the bar, but bounced up for a simple nod in, but then they equalised almost immediately as a shot bounced low to deceive Harry 1-1. Into the semi-final against Bristol Rovers Supporters and there was only really one team in it, Callum and Max seeing us through 2-0. We faced Bitton in the final, and twenty five minutes of play including extra time saw us goalless and so to Bitton scored, Aaron scored, penalties. they missed, Ben scored, Harry saved, Lore scored, they scored, which meant that Sammie just needed to score to seal victory, which he did, 0-0 and 4-2. - 2011 Winners

**Man of the Tournament –** Chosen by the players for a great display **– Harry** 

Afterthoughts.....

Chippenham has gotten smaller over time, and with only ten entries this was the smallest. Also the standard of opposition has dropped, and in all honestly only Laverstock, Robins or ourselves were of any real quality. The referees were also dubious, and so with heavy heart (as I've always liked it here) I feel it's time to turn away from Chippenham. There was a great moment after the group stages when I mentioned that we hadn't conceded, and George looked really surprised. I asked about this and he said "It's not something I'm used to!" Priceless. As for our performance, all seven outfield players went sub equally and yet we easily made the semi-final, showing the quality that we have, but in Laverstock, we faced an opposition at the top of their game.

At Bitton I have to admit to feeling a bit disappointed when I saw that it was ten minute games at 11-a-side. Although it's 11 players on a big pitch, with only ten minutes you need to go for it quickly and play with a 6-a-side mentality, and that I feel was our eventual undoing. We looked a bit lethargic in our last group game, and even more so in the semi-final, but we still created many chances and really should have beaten them. After beating Bitton in the group stages, it would have been nice to have faced them in the final, however I am not a fan of one group going to playoffs. The final consisted of third v fourth having all played each other. In my view this should be one group, medals for the top two! I don't like the way they decide the Rugby Union Premiership for the same reason, and that, along with the fact that they allow current Academy players to play is why we won't come back here, unless the format changes.

Our tournament is always tough, and with a record 29 teams entering, whoever won had to play eleven games for the honour. We had Sam and Elliot away, and lost Lorenzo on the Friday night to torn ligaments, but that is not making excuses. Both teams played well and tried their best, but as Manchester United found out the night before, there is always someone better than you, and on the day it was the League, Cup & County Cup winners!

I actually have a tinge of sadness about winning at Corsham thanks to my "don't go back if we win" policy, as I really do enjoy it there. That said, the boys have done something that I have waited over 15 years for, and I am very proud of the team that

played. They never looked flustered or really under pressure, and they played some scintillating football, and in my view were worthy winners.

Bath Arsenal was always going to be tough, with both Bitton and Jamie Shore in our group of seven, and only two going through. We played some great football in some games, and some awful in others, and it was no surprise when we were eliminated. It's a very good tournament however, with strong opposition and a good number of games. The only drawback for me is that they allow each team one Academy player, so you are not facing the real team, and I wonder why teams bring them in, as it can only be to win!

Weston was a very long day, about ten hours for each of us. I don't like the long break format, but I do like the 20 minute final with another 10 for extra-time. I felt that overall we were the strongest team with Weston Crusaders, and that would have been a great final. In the end I felt that the Banwell players let themselves down. We have been on the end of some bad decisions, but have never acted that way, and whilst I know they felt aggrieved, the rules were correctly applied.

I didn't see this game, but by the accounts of the players, it was a tournament that we could have won, and yet ended up Shield runners-Up for the second year in a row. It was nice to finally see Ben Watt play for us, and let's hope it's the beginning of many!

Highworth was a really good tournament, well run and well organised. We played good football, and were at our very best

against the "Academy" team, but couldn't keep that level of intensity into the semi. We also ended with Sam injured, and both Harry and Aaron feeling unwell (burgers?). Overall a good tournament and one I would consider for next season.

Rovers was our last 6-a-side of the Summer (Whitchurch being 11-a-side), and what a great way to end that part. Like Corsham I have been coming here on and off for years, so to finally win it was a great achievement. We played excellent football, and even with a smattering on academy players, I believe that we were easily the best team on the day, and deserved winners.

Whitchurch saw us end the summer on a real high. We rarely come here due to its middle of the summer date, but we went for it this time and I'm glad we did, not just because we won, but also because it was a well run tournament with a decent number of games. The 10-minute format which Bitton also use has grown on me, and if we hadn't have won I would have considered returning.

Another great Summer! Last Summer we had three Winners, three Runners-Up and three Semi-Finals, so whilst not quite as successful. with four Winners. Runners-Up and three Semi-Finals, this one comes close, and with four winners is our highest win tally. Again Frys was the only one where it really rained (although there were times at Weston when we were glad of the gazebo), and most were great sunshine. My biggest highlight was winning at Corsham. Having run two teams now, I have been going there for about 15 years, so to finally win it was fantastic, although

the same is true of Rovers Supporters so well done there as well! Congratulations to every player for a great Summer.

## U14's - Appearances and Goals

**P** = Played in the Tournament

**M** = Man of the Tournament **G** = Goals scored Р M G Aaron Sutton 10 6 Ben Moreton 3 Ben Watt 3 2 **Brandon Thomas** 1 Bryn Williams 8 9 Callum Frv 9 38 Charlie Hayne 4 1 2 Declan Gaydon 1 1 George Marsh 8 1 Harry Edgell 10

10 Joe Cowel 1 Joel Harvey 3 Josh Jewell 4 2 1 Kai England Lewis Perrett 3 2 7 2 Lorenzo Mercato 3 Max Stevens 5 1 5 5 Noah McCarthy 2 Reece Provis 8 Sam Kipling 6 4 Sammie Hicks 3 3 Tom Johnson

## U14's Fixtures and Results

May	14 21 29 29	R B	FC Chippenham Bitton Boys Fry Club JFC Fry Club JFC	Semi Final Semi Final Last 16 Last 16
Jun	4 11 18 25		AFC Corsham Team Bath Arsenal Weston Crus Stoke Lane <b>Shield</b>	Winners
Jul	2 10		Highworth Juniors Rovers Supporters	Semi Final Winners
Aug	14		Whitchurch	Winners

Well done to everyone who participated, I hope you all enjoyed it as much as I did, and I'll see you all next year for our final summer! Hopefully, we will finish with great memories of 10 years of tournaments.