



## **FRY CLUB COLTS**



# **U15 TOURNAMENTS REPORT U15**

Number 10

The End Of The World As We Know It

September 2012

### **U15TOURNAMENT REPORT TOURNAMENTU15 FC CHIPPENHAM YOUTH – 12/05/12 U15TOURNAMENT REPORT TOURNAMENTU15**

Team – Tom, Aaron (Captain), Del, Bryn, Josh, Max & Lorenzo

After a long journey out to Chippenham, we walked in past the Juniors who were also here and went to register our team. It was with some consternation then when the organisers looked at me in surprise, and then said that there was no U15 competition, and that it had been cancelled! Both myself and Mark from the Juniors informed them that we had not had an e-mail, but apparently the weather had put paid to some pitches, and so they had cut the age groups with the least teams. For some reason our e-mails had not been received. We waited to see if any other teams turned up, and when they didn't, the organisers apologised and offered to stage a final, with trophies at the end. We therefore played a 40 minute game against the Juniors as a final. In all fairness we dominated from start to finish, and but for some outstanding saves, and some wayward shots it could easily have been double figures. As it was **Del** opened the scoring with a close range header before **Max** turned brilliantly to poke home. Kirk got one back for the Juniors, and they raised their intensity and surged forward in a bid for the equaliser, but all it did was open the space for us to exploit as **Del** thundered a shot past the 'keeper, before **Lore** finally got one for himself **4-1 – 2012 Champions**.

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

### **U15TOURNAMENT REPORT TOURNAMENTU15 BITTON BOYS – 20/05/12 U15TOURNAMENT REPORT TOURNAMENTU15**

Team – Harry, Josh, Joel, Aaron, Reece, George, Sam, Max, Bryn, Noah, Tom, Kai, Jordan Williams & Del (Captain)

This like last year was a strange tournament. 11-a-side games, but only ten minutes one way. To make matters worse, they took away offsides for the group

games, one group of six, top four into the knockout section. First up were Gordano Valley Rangers, and a mix up between Harry and Josh led to their goal when Josh didn't hear Harry's call **0-1**. Then came Bitton, and after going a goal down we rallied with **Del's** back post header **1-1**. The third game was a strange looking Juniors side as four Keynsham Town players lined up against us. Despite dominating, a Keynsham break led to a corner which a Keynsham player headed in **0-1**. The fourth game was Gloucester City from the Midlands league, and a ricochet saw the first goal in off of Joel, and an uncontested jump from a corner sealed it **0-2**. The final game saw us needing to win, and hope others results went our way. We finally hit our stride and did our bit, **Del, Noah** and **Bryn** scoring after Cadbury Heath had taken the lead **3-1**, however the others result didn't go our way and we were on our way home. Gloucester City beat Bitton 1-0 in the final.

**Man of the Tournament** – Chosen by Andy for a great display – **Sam**

### **U15TOURNAMENT REPORT TOURNAMENTU15 BRISTOL CITY SUPPORTERS – 02/06/12 U15TOURNAMENT REPORT TOURNAMENTU15**

Team – Harry, Josh, Joel, Ben, Aaron, Reece, Tom (Captain), Del, Bryn, Noah, Jack S, Harry N & Lorenzo

We had some difficulties getting a side initially. Sam was working, Max was unavailable, George was working, then available, then injured and Aaron was ill, but at the final minute ok to play part. With this in mind I sent out the call to a few players and Noah brought Jack Sharkey and Bryn brought Harry Neil. We opened against Highridge and some good natured banter between the teams as a lot of the players knew each other. It was closer than it should have been with Highridge almost taking the lead, Harry saving a shot with his face, but that would haunt us later. With four minutes of the 20 left we got the breakthrough as **Del** scored, and then **Lore** and **Josh** followed quickly after the give the score a respectable look **3-0**. Next were Avonmouth, and a win would put us through, however they took the lead, and we battled back to equalise through a mazy run by **Harry N**, before he scored off of a defender **1-1**. We lost Harry E at half-time of this game due to blurred vision however, and that ended

his day. Finally City Supporters, and we needed to avoid defeat to progress, however they caught us cold, and four times in the first half went through 0-4. City beat Avonmouth 3-2 on penalties after the final had ended 0-0.

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

**U15TOURNAMENT REPORT TOURNAMENTU15**  
**STOKE LANE ATHLETIC – 16/06/12**  
**U15TOURNAMENT REPORT TOURNAMENTU15**

Team – Harry, Del, Bryn, Tom, Josh, Noah, Lore, Jack Sharkey, Jamie Noble, Jordan Williams, Kai England & Nathan Hodgson.

Andy was away on holiday for this one and Tony had to work, so Grenade (Geraint) took charge. Only seven Frys players were available, so the players brought some quality friends with them. There was one group, five teams, fifteen minutes one way per game, with the top two making the final, and the weather conditions were atrocious. Our first game was Stoke Lane which ended **0-0**. Next we faced Bristol Rovers Supporters and again it was **0-0**. Our third game was Wotton Rovers, and again it ended **0-0**. We went into our last game needing to win to have any chance, and finally against Avon Athletic we did, as Lore and Jamie both scored **2-0**. Most games had ended goalless, so that win took us into the final as group runners-up, to face Avon who we had just beaten easily, and yet in the final it was a different story as our passing rhythm was gone, and having lost the ball in attack, three out of four of the midfield did not hurry back and left four defenders against seven with predictable results **0-1**. **2012 Runners-Up**.

**Man of the Tournament** – Chosen by Geraint for a great display – **Del**

**U15TOURNAMENT REPORT TOURNAMENTU15**  
**GORDANO VALLEY GIANTS – 24/06/12**  
**U15TOURNAMENT REPORT TOURNAMENTU15**

Team – Harry, Tom, Aaron, Del, Bryn (Captain), Max & Lorenzo

We were reticent about this tournament even being on having had torrential rain for the previous week, including all day Saturday, however no call came, and the sun came out! The field itself was a bit of a bog, and we had the boggiest pitch, although in fairness it dried as the day progressed, so much so that Andy got sunburnt! Our first game was Portishead Town Youth 'A' (not to be confused with Portishead Juniors, The Warmley of the Woodspring League), and our dominance was total, even if we did only get one goal, **Max** shooting through the crowd **1-0**. Next were our old friends Weston Crusaders 'A', and this was as tough a game as they always are, but a moment of brilliance settled it as a high cross to the back post was

taken on his chest by **Aaron** with his back to goal, before he swivelled and volley high into the net. Even his face had an element of disbelief as he celebrated, that was how good it was **1-0**. Finally we faced Bristol Rovers Supporters 'B' knowing that we were through, but to top the group we just had to avoid defeat. Unfortunately that did not happen, as although we had the lion's share of dominance and chances, Rovers caught us napping with a quick throw early on, and that was how it stayed **0-1**. Into the quarter final against a group winner in Banwell 'B', and this was even more one sided than the previous games as we dominated for 9 ½ minutes and had 95% possession. Unfortunately we couldn't score, and in their 30 seconds and 5% possession they did, and we were out **0-1**. Gordano Valley Rangers Black beat Gordano Valley Rangers Red in the final 1-0.

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

**U15TOURNAMENT REPORT TOURNAMENTU15**  
**NICHOLAS WANDERERS – 30/06/12**  
**U15TOURNAMENT REPORT TOURNAMENTU15**

Team – Ben (Captain), Tom, Aaron, Bryn, Reece, Max, Jordan & Harry N

Harry was not available so Ben went in goal. Andy asked Jordan and Harry along again so we had a squad of seven. Nicholas Wanderers had had so many entries that they decided to hold two U15 tournaments, one on either day, and we were on the Saturday, a lovely sunny day. By the time of our first game it was torrential rain, and it stayed on and off for the rest of the day. Our first game was Oldland, and **Harry** set us away with two good goals **2-0**. We then faced Winterbourne 'B' and **Harry** again got the goal **1-0**. Our next game was Fleur De Lys, and although we dominated, we couldn't score **0-0**. Our fourth game was Bath Arsenal and having gone a goal down we equalised through **Jordan**. We pressed for the winner, and having just missed a chance they broke and scored, and that was how it ended **1-2**. Our final game meant that qualification was out of our hands, and we needed Fleur De Lys not to win against Bath Arsenal to give us a chance. They hit the post, but didn't score, so we just needed to beat Ashton 'B', and two goals from **Jordan** saw us into the semi-final **2-0**. We faced Bromley Heath in the semi, and although we dominated we couldn't score and it went to extra-time. It looked to be heading to penalties when they blasted one in, Ben dislocating his finger and fracturing it as well as he tried to save. We pushed for the equaliser and saw a goal-line scramble and two cleared off the line which led to a throw. Harry flicked it at goal, it went through the 'keeper's legs and over the line (impartially verified), however they cleared, and the referee ruled it no goal, and that was how it ended **0-1**.

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

**U15TOURNAMENT REPORT TOURNAMENTU15**  
**HENBURY COLTS – 21/07/12**  
**U15TOURNAMENT REPORT TOURNAMENTU15**

Team – Harry, Tom, Aaron, Joel (Captain), Max, Connor Kerr & Lorenzo

We had originally entered two teams, however with a few leaving and others unavailable, we had to pull one out at the last minute. Just to be on the safe side, Joel brought Connor along with him, and so that was the squad. This was a five-a-side tournament, with four groups of five, and group games 14 minutes one way, which allowed time for the game to develop. First up were Henbury Colts, and they were a quick, skilful and quite powerful team, taking the lead early on, however goals from **Lore** and **Connor** eventually gave us the win **2-1**. We then played Avon Athletic Green, and a goal in about ten seconds saw us go behind again, and although I felt we grew to be the dominant team, we were unable to snatch the equaliser **0-1**. Saltford Stars Nike were next, and this was our most comfortable win, **Lore** opening the scoring and then **Tom** weighing in with two more **3-0**. Finally we faced Lawrence Weston Red from the fourth division in the knowledge that we just needed to avoid defeat to progress. Obviously no one told them that, as in the first minute they broke and scored, and two minutes later did it again! In all fairness they had three shots in 14 minutes and we dominated otherwise, and it was simply a matter of whether we would have the time to convert that possession into the goals needed. As it happens we did with **Max** getting both **2-0**. Into the Quarter Final as group runners-up against a group winner, however the mix of groups meant that we were favourites, and this became more so after two minutes when their striker was injured and couldn't carry on, but they had no subs, so he had to go in goal and their striker come on pitch. In all fairness, after that it was just a matter of whether we'd score in time, and it took us into the second half of extra-time to finally do this, **Aaron** hammering in the winner **1-0**. Into the Semi-Final and up against the other Avon Athletic team, Avon Athletic Yellow. Again we conceded a goal before we really got going, however a goal from **Lore** pulled us level, and then a controversial penalty gave us the winner. Tom was in their area going a cross goal trying to get the angle to shoot when he went down under a challenge. People on their side (where I was stood) were convinced that Tom had caught his own legs and fallen, whereas our side (when I asked later) all stated that Tom had been caught. One particular Avon supporter was very angry, calling us cheats and congratulating our players for big clearances in a mocking way, and even getting aggressive toward me when I defended my team! Regardless, **Tom** stood back up and buried the penalty to take us into the final **2-1**. I spoke to Tom after, and he looked surprised that I even asked him, adamant that he had been caught, and so regardless of what others believe, I believe my player. Into the Final on a pitch across Henbury's senior pitch, i.e. it

was massive. It was a sixteen minute final, and in the heat of the day, and against a tall, fast and powerful opposition in Avonmouth, it was a game too far. Yet again we conceded a very early goal, however this time we could not recover, although in fairness Avonmouth dominated and were worthy winners. We held out and later on forced chances, however in the last three minutes Avonmouth scored two more to put the result beyond doubt **0-3**. – **2012 Runners-Up**

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

*Afterthoughts.....*

*I said last year that it was our final year at Chippenham, and in hindsight should have kept to that, however it's been one of the mainstays of our summer and with this probably our last summer, decided to go one more time! As it turned out it was admin at fault as opposed to quality, but they were apologetic and accommodating and staged a good length game for us. I have happy memories of our times at Chippenham, so this at least did not diminish those.*

*I wasn't impressed with the Bitton format last year, and had there been any other tournament locally, I would have gone elsewhere. We didn't get going until going a goal down in every game, and in most of them that was too late. I could hear some Juniors players bragging behind me after their win, but when four of your ten outfield players are not your team, it doesn't really mean you get bragging rights! That said, this was not our best tournament performance, and we didn't really deserve to go further.*

*At City Supporters we played well in our first two games here and should have gone through, however losing Harry upset the balance, and we were just not switched on enough against City. I had said in the past about not coming back due to the lack of official refs, but for a while at least they did this time and it was good. Unfortunately that eventually changed to parents again, and there were times that obvious fouls by both teams were ignored. It was a disappointing end to another 11-a-side tournament, and in retrospect, perhaps summer 6's would have been better.*

*I was away for Stoke Lane, however Geraint was impressed with the effort and commitment shown. He was especially pleased at how we passed and moved, particularly in the Avon group game which*

we won. The only disappointment was the lack of effort by some when we lost the ball in the final which led to Avon overloading our area and being able to score. All in all a good day, despite the appalling weather.

Gordano was our first visit, and even if we had not been too old next year, it would also be our last. We averaged a game an hour, which was too much sitting around. As for playing, if there was natural justice I feel we would have made the final, however we need to turn our possession into goals (something we said all season long) and truth be told was the only reason we didn't make the final.

It was also our first time to the Nicholas Wanderers tournament, and it wasn't too bad except for the complete lack of a first aid person when Ben dislocated his finger. It was a shame to lose in the semi, Bath and ourselves were the best two teams there, but as always you have to take your chances.

Our final tournament of the summer, and in all probability, or final summer tournament. It was nice to make a final at this historic last day, but it's a shame we couldn't convert that to a win. I liked this tournament as they gave you plenty of playing time, in fact, making the final with the period of extra-time thrown in meant that we played in 100 minutes of football on a very hot day, so well done to the players for keeping going so well. If I had a gripe, it would be that we conceded first in so many games, and then had to get going, and come from behind, although in fairness, with the exception of the Final, we generally did!

Another great Summer! Nowhere near as successful as in some recent years, but we still made it to three out of seven finals, winning one. My biggest memory was probably Henbury. Having three players taking part who had played in the very first tournament was a real highlight, and but for working, I am sure that Sam would also have been there! Congratulations to every player for a great Summer.

#### U15's – Appearances and Goals

**P** = Played in the Tournament  
**M** = Man of the Tournament  
**G** = Goals scored

**P M G**

Aaron Sutton	6	1	2
Ben Watt	2		
Bryn Williams	6	1	1
Connor Kerr	1		1
Del Shepherd	5	2	5
George Marsh	1		
Harry Edgell	5	1	
Harry Neil	2	1	4
Jack Sharkey	2		
Jamie Noble	1		1
Joel Harvey	3		
Jordan Williams	3		3
Josh Jewell	4		1
Kai England	2		
Lorenzo Mercato	5		6
Max Stevens	5		4
Nathan	1		
Noah McCarthy	3		1
Reece Provis	3		
Sam Kipling	1	1	
Tom Johnson	7		3

#### U15's Fixtures and Results

May 12	FC Chippenham	<b>Champions</b>
20	Bitton Boys	<b>Group Stage</b>
Jun 2	City Supporters	<b>Group Stage</b>
16	Stoke Lane	<b>Cup Runners-Up</b>
24	Gordano VG	<b>Quarter Final</b>
30	Nicholas Wands	<b>Semi Final</b>
Jul 21	Henbury	<b>Runners-Up</b>

Well done to everyone who participated, I hope you all enjoyed it as much as I did. This was our final summer of tournaments as the U16 year traditionally ends with the Manager's Match on Cup Final morning. As this is probably the last tournament report, I would just like to say what a fantastic time I have had every summer for the last ten years, and to say thanks to every player who was at Yate Utd on the 5<sup>th</sup> July 2003 (Aaron Sutton, Charlie Glavin, Dan Churches, Jack Dancey, Jack Yeoman, James Baker, Matt Long, Max Stevens, Josef Hill, Sam Burgess, Sam Pike, Sam Kipling & Tom Johnson) right the way through to Henbury on the 21<sup>st</sup> July 2012 (Aaron Sutton, Connor Kerr, Harry Edgell, Joel Harvey, Lorenzo Mercato, Max Stevens & Tom Johnson), and in particular well done to Aaron, Max & Tom for being there at both the first and last tournament, ten years apart. It has been an absolute pleasure to travel with you all, over the last ten years, and in that time we have made it to 26 finals, converting 14 of them into Tournament Winners. Well done to every player, and in the words of Vinnie Jones in the film 'Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels', "It's been emotional!" - Andy