



the powerful game

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Sports News Release

Cayman Prep win 2010/2011 Opening Rally

Cayman Prep claimed the first silverware of the 2010/2011 CUC Primary Football League season as they defeated George Town Primary 3-0 in the final of the Opening Rally this past Saturday at the T.E. McField Sports Complex.

Runners-up in the 2001/2010 Opening Rally, the Cayman Prep boys made it difficult for themselves during the group stage and were at one point very close to being eliminated. Just as the Prep contingent were packing-up and heading for the exits, newcomers Wesleyan Academy created the shock of the day as they downed NorthEast Schools in a penalty shootout, resulting in a second-place finish for Cayman Prep in Group C and a spot in the quarter-finals thanks to their superior goal difference.

Cayman Prep had opened their Zone C campaign with a resounding 5-0 victory over Wesleyan Academy before losing to NorthEast Schools on penalties and defending Rally champions and eventual Zone C winners Sir John A. Cumber 1-0.

In the quarter-finals, Cayman Prep defeated Zone A winners Truth For Youth 2-1 before cementing a spot in the final with a 1-0 win over Bodden Town Primary, thanks to a wonder strike from Victor Magalhaes.

Eventual finalists George Town Primary finished runners-up in Zone B after losing 1-0 to Prospect Primary, defeating Triple C on penalties and overcoming South Sound Schools 2-0. In the quarter-finals, the George Towners faced defending Opening Rally champions and Zone C winners Sir John A. Cumber Primary, who were on a high after going undefeated in the group stage. With the score locked at one-a-piece, George Town Primary survived the dreaded penalty shootout and ended Sir John A. Cumber's dream of replicating their 2009/2010 success.

In the semi-finals, George Town Primary went on to defeat St. Ignatius Prep 2-0 thanks to an inspiring double-strike from the always dangerous D-Andre Rowe.

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With the evening sun hanging low in the clouds, the two finalists - Cayman Prep and George Town Primary – took to the field for one final showdown. The day's heat had taken its toll on both sets of players but they were determined to get their hands on the ultimate prize.

George Town's danger man D'Andre Rowe kept Cayman Prep's defenders on their toes with several darting runs throughout the first half. Not to be outdone, Cayman Prep's newest acquisition Corey Mellaneo and Jack Lewis were causing countless problems for George Town's rearguard.

Cayman Prep's persistence soon paid off as Alex Logvinov and Jack Lewis struck in quick succession to give the Prepsters a 2-0 lead going into half-time.

As the second half began, George Town fought valiantly in search of an answer but Cayman Prep's defenders were up for the challenge. Against the run of play, Jack Lewis struck his second of the game and sealed the win for his school much to the delight of the exuberant Cayman Prep faithful.

As referee Gary Whittaker sounded the final whistle, the Cayman Prep bench and sideline erupted with cheers and clapping for their young heroes. They had done it. The cup was theirs.

George Town was gracious in defeat and congratulated their counterparts on their win. Although losing a final is never an easy pill to swallow, the George Town players were given a rousing round of applause from all in attendance for their performance. Finishing the day as Opening Rally runners-up was a fantastic feat for the youngsters from George Town.

Following the final, champions Cayman Prep, runners-up George Town Primary and third-place finishers St. Ignatius Prep received their team trophies and individual awards from the Honourable Mark Scotland.

The PFL organisers thank all the parents and supporters who made their way to the field on Saturday to cheer on the players. Special thanks to the Cayman Islands Referees Association for their assistance with the day's officiating duties.

The PFL Committee further encourages supporters of "the powerful game" to visit one of the primary school venues this coming Saturday as the regular season for the 2010/2011 CUC Primary Football League commences. We'll see you at the field.



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