



the powerful game

Monday, October 5, 2009

Sports News Release

John A. Cumber claim PFL Opening Rally

John A. Cumber Primary claimed the first silverware of the 2009/2010 CUC Primary Football League season this past Saturday as they defeated Cayman Prep in the final of the Opening Rally at the T.E. McField Sports Complex (Annex Field) in George Town.

In what turned out to be an unusually scorching October day, John A. Cumber Primary's resilience carried them through the day, overcoming Savannah Primary, Grace Academy and St. Ignatius Prep to top Group D and move onto the quarter finals. A stubborn Bodden Town Primary outfit was all that separated them from a berth in the semi finals and true to form the game was an intense encounter with neither team able to find the back of the net. It was the dreaded penalties, which finally decided a winner with John A. Cumber pulling out the victory after sudden death penalties to advance to the semis and a date with Truth for Youth.

In the other zone, Cayman Prep's journey to the finals was not an easy one. An opening defeat to Prospect Primary meant the Prep boys needed victories in their second and third games against East End Primary and North Side Primary respectively to ensure their place in the quarter finals. A hard fought 1-0 over East End and an easier 3-0 victory over North Side booked Cayman Prep's place in the quarters to face Cayman International School. It took yet another set of penalties to decide this quarter final encounter as Cayman Prep outlasted Cayman International School and advance to the semis to meet Triple C, winners of Group B.

With four teams remaining and the afternoon shadows creeping across the "new" hallowed turf of the Annex Field, the tiredness, soreness, aches and pains accumulated from the day's activities were quickly forgotten about as the young "weekend warriors" set out to finish what they had started roughly seven hours earlier.

CUC Primary Football League Representative:

Neil Murray • Caribbean Utilities Company, Ltd. • PO Box 38 • Grand Cayman KY1-1101 • Cayman Islands
T: 345.914.1110 • F: 345.949.5203 • E: nmurray@cuc.ky



the powerful game

Cayman Prep again displayed their “never-say-die” attitude as they outlasted a spirited Triple C team 2-1 in sudden death penalties to claim the first spot in the finals. Not to be outdone, John A. Cumber Primary battled to a 2-0 victory over a young, always enthusiastic Truth For Youth side in the second semi final.

Prior to the big game, Triple C claimed third place after a hard fought 2-1 win over beaten semi finalists Truth For Youth. For those fans of “the powerful game” who chose to stay and see out the final game of the 2009/2010 Opening Rally, the encounter was a fitting conclusion to what amounted to be a yet another great day of youth football.

With both teams notably absent from recent championship games, winning this tournament could possibly signify a re-birth of sorts for two of the better and most successful primary school football programmes over the past five or so years.

With tiredness now a factor, both sets of players gave it their all and competed to the very end giving no quarter in their quest for the coveted title. It was John A. Cumber who broke the deadlock late in the second half after it looked as though another penalty shootout would settle this highly competitive encounter. Leading 1-0 with time running out, it was simply a matter of holding onto the ball and avoiding any mistakes in the back. With the final whistle signaling the end of the 2009/2010 Opening Rally, the West Bay fans converged on their heroes lofting them to the heavens, and at the same time, congratulating their opponents on an excellent performance.

Special thanks to the officials - Gary Whittaker, Livingston Bailey and Dwayne Ebanks - who braved the day’s heat and shared responsibility for all 26 games. Special mention to the players, coaches and parents of Grace Academy, who performed admirably in Group D while competing with an all Under-9 team. Special thanks to Le Bleu and Progressive Distributors, the Primary Football League’s continued providers of water and Gatorade respectively.

For fans of “the powerful game”, the 2009/2010 PFL’s regular season kicks-off this coming weekend at venues across the island. Do your part and support our young superstars this and every Saturday morning.

- End of Release -



the powerful game

If you have any queries, please contact:

Neil Murray

Caribbean Utilities Company, Ltd.

Tel: 914-1110

Fax: 949-5203

Email: nmurray@cuc.ky