

U16 Boy – Inter-Regional Tournament 2021

Match Report



This weekend the East Region U16 boys (2006 and 2007 born) travelled to Walsall to compete in the inter Regional Tournament. The team had been designated Division 2 following the result of the U14 tournament in 2019. 8 of the 13 squad selected had been members of the 2019 team.

Day 1 - Saturday, dubbed home nations day by the team and supporters



Game 1 – East vs Wales

This was a tough start to the teams inter regional tournament going down in the first quarter 5-0 against the Welsh team, but as the team adapted to the strength of the Welsh they came back to 8-6. Unfortunately the huge effort of the comeback took its toll and we ended up losing 11-6.

Game 2 – Scotland vs East

Next up was Scotland who had an individual who unfortunately stole the show. Just after the first quarter we

were 6 - 0 down, but then we again made an amazing comeback scoring 6 to their 3 to get the game to 9-6. Unfortunately Scotland's regrouped to end the game 17-8

Day 2 - Sunday

Game 3 – East vs North East

After a good night's sleep, it was an early start against North East. This time instead of having to chase a huge lead we scored first. NE equalised but we scored again. We traded goals never getting more than 2 ahead. At the end of the third quarter we were 6-4 up. With an amazing defensive effort and some excellent saves, half the quarter had



elapse before any goals were scored and fortunately it was one for us 7-4 up with 2:29 left on the clock. However, the NE still had some fight left and scored 2 unanswered goals to get to 7-6 with 38 seconds left. East rallied their defences again and prevented any further goal to secure their first win in a very exciting game. This was an amazing defensive effort with Taylor the goalkeeper making some extraordinary saves.

Game 4 – East vs East Midlands

The team did not have much time to celebrate or rest as the next game was against the East Midlands in less than 3 hours. The game started well with the first quarter ending 2 - 2.

Unfortunately the second quarter was tough and at half time we trailed 8-3. The team did not let their heads drop and narrowly lost the third quarter 3 -2 but came back to win the last quarter 3-2, the final score 13 -7.



The tournament was an amazing team effort and they improved game on game. Captain Ryan's constant encouragement, support and enthusiasm ensured the team attacked every game with true determination and team spirit. Goal Keeper Taylor made some spectacular saves cheered on by the whole team every time. His efforts led to him being awarded the MVP (Most Valued Player). Will, Ryan & Adam all defended the pit very well against some very strong pit attackers and some stringent refereeing as well as providing the strong backbone and support to this team. Alex and Ed both demonstrated fantastic skill in attack scoring 7 goals apiece. Every member of this squad worked together and truly came together as a team both in and out of the water.

It would have been easy for heads to drop or start pointing out someone's mistakes but that did not happen, they kept fighting and supporting each other even after the toughest of quarters. This was

demonstrated by the fact that in every game we won at least one quarter.

A post tournament note to the team from Assistant Coach Tim perfectly explains the true character of this team "I have been massively impressed with the resilience and commitment of the boys, and their great camaraderie."

