

The ESCA/Bunbury Under 11 Hardball Cricket Competition 2009
Finals Day, Oundle School, Friday July 10th 2009

An increased intake of over 400 schools entered the ESCA/Bunbury Under 11 Hardball Cricket Competition 2009.

Magnificent work was done locally, in the counties and in the regions by stalwart ESCA personnel to provide us with our eight National finalists. We owe the ESCA team all over the country so much.

This year the finalists were:

Birkdale Prep School, Sheffield, Yorkshire

Exeter Junior School, Devon

Grace-Dieu Manor School, Thringston, Leicestershire

Twyford School, Winchester, Hampshire

Haslemere Prep School, Surrey

Orwell Park School, Ipswich, Suffolk

Bromsgrove School, Worcestershire

Salesbury County Primary School, Blackburn, Lancashire

The Finals Day was held in pleasantly warm weather on four excellent wickets, prepared by the Oundle School ground staff. The finalists competed in two leagues, each named after redoubtable former ESCA administrators, the Cooper league and the Hemingway league. Each school played three matches in their respective league.

The Hemingway league was very straightforward as Twford School won all of their matches. The Cooper league was much closer as three schools won two matches each. The rule book declared that this should be adjudicated by total runs scored in the three matches. This came to: Exeter School 814 runs, Bromsgrove School 801 runs and Haslemere Prep School 777 runs.

So, the final matches of the day could be organised with each school playing against the equivalent placed school in their partner league.

Twyford v Exeter

Grace-Dieu Manor v Bromsgrove

Orwell Park v Haslemere

Salesbury v Birkdale

The level of scoring had been high all day as twice schools totalled over 300 runs. In the last round however, it was a bowler who took the honours as Oliver Pope from Haslemere Prep School took four wickets in four balls and was awarded the match ball. The Final was a pulsating affair as Twyford set an imposing target of 281, Exeter took the match to the last over before edging ahead and then keeping their heads by not losing the wicket, to claim victory.

Presentations were made by the ESCA Chairman, Don Crawford, to the magnificent umpires and scorers, all the teams who were present as Regional champions and to the top three schools on Finals Day - Bromsgrove (bronze), Twyford (silver) and Exeter (gold).

ESCA would like to thank David Farmer and the ESCA team for the excellent organisation of the day.

**THE ESCA/BUNBURY UNDER ELEVEN HARDBALL COMPETITION 2009
FINALS DAY, OUNDLE SCHOOL, FRIDAY, 10 JULY 2009**

			<u>Runs</u> <u>Wkts</u>				<u>Runs</u> <u>Wkts</u>
C1 v C2	Pitch 1	Birkdale Prep School	239 - 2.	Exeter Junior School			273 - 2
C3 v C4	Pitch 2	Bromsgrove School	260 - 2	Haslemere Prep School			251 - 2
C2 v C3	Pitch 1	Exeter Junior School	290 - 0	Bromsgrove School			270 - 1
C1 v C4	Pitch 2	Birkdale Prep School	252 - 4	Haslemere Prep School			265 - 8
C1 v C3	Pitch 1	Birkdale Prep School	238 - 7	Bromsgrove School			271 - 2
C2 v C4	Pitch 2	Exeter Junior School	251 - 8	Haslemere Prep School			261 - 7
Positions	1..Exeter.....		2..Grace-Dieu..	3 Haslemere...			4.Birkdale

H1 v H2	Pitch 3	Grace-Dieu Manor School	287 - 1	Salesbury Primary School			259 - 4
H3 v H4	Pitch 4	Twyford School	270 - 5.	Orwell Park School			263 - 4
H2 v H3	Pitch 3	Salesbury Primary School	238 - 6	Twyford School			273 - 2
H1 v H4	Pitch 4	Grace-Dieu Manor School	239 - 6	Orwell Park School			252 - 6
H1 v H3	Pitch 3	Grace-Dieu Manor School	295 - 1	Twyford School			305 - 1
H2 v H4	Pitch 4	Salesbury Primary School	263 - 2	Orwell Park School			308 - 4

Positions 1.Twyford.. 2 Grace.... 3 Orwell..... 4.Salesbury....

Final Twyford..... v .Exeter.....

- 1 Exeter.....
- 2 Twyford.....
- 3 Bromsgrove.....
- 4 Grace-Dieu Manor
- 5 Haslemere
- 6 Orwell Park
- 7 Birkdale.....
- 8 Salesbury.....

C1	BIRKDALE PREP SCHOOL	H1	GRACE-DIEU MANOR SCHOOL
C2	EXETER JUNIOR SCHOOL	H2	SALESBURY PRIMARY SCHOOL
C3	BROMSGROVE SCHOOL	H3	TWYFORD SCHOOL
C4	HASLEMERE PREP SCHOOL	H4	ORWELL PARK SCHOOL

Matches Final Order

Final: 1	Twyford 281 – 1	v	Exeter 287 – 0
2	Grace-Dieu 252 – 8	v	Bromsgrove 291 – 2
3	Orwell 266 – 8	v	Haslemere 276 – 3
4	Salesbury 278 – 4	v	Birkdale 279 – 4