Bootroom Bulletin

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Boys give all in Leeds Semi-Final!

Just as lots of sports are winding down, things were heating up for the Shadwell boy footballers as they made their way to Rawdon Littlemoor (which is easier said than done!) for their Leeds Football Semi-Final. Just to get to this stage is an achievement, with some determined resilience from the group required in every game.

The pitch was smaller than the lads were used to and the opposition's long ball, of which there were plenty, created problems for our defence. Despite dealing with these long balls well, Rawdon occasionally got one or two bounce their way, which is what happened for their opener; Dexter was unable to do anything about their striker smashing a volley into the roof of the net.

With the score remaining 1-0 at halftime, the message was clear; go out there and play football, get it down and pass it. Despite the enclosed surface, the boys are good enough to play anyone, and so it proved as pressure mounted on the Rawdon goal. A couple of great corners from George nearly resulted in goals; one which we just couldn't make contact with, rather than the ball going forwards

it went up and over the bar from being pretty much on the goal line. The other chance was stopped on the line eventually by the opposition keeper. Although there were protests from the Shadwell faithful, the referee shook his head, gesturing that his VAR watch hadn't buzzed and therefore the whole of the ball hadn't crossed the line; it was definitely close!

A goal was coming though and arrived when Captain – Max - took down the ball, went past a defender and fired in low to the left.

Max had also had a couple of free kicks narrowly miss (one in particular from half way that was destined for the top corner till the keeper (who made some good saves, fair play to him!) tipped it over.

Not long after the equaliser, Shadwell were unfortunate to go behind again. A clearance ricocheted off our own defender into the striker's path, whose shot lashed in off the upright from a fair distance away. As the boys pushed forward towards the end, there was nothing to lose. Having the pressure count in the previous game show the boys could do it but this time it just wasn't to be; Rawdon caught us on the break towards the end to put the game out of reach.

Football's a game of 50/50s and on another day a few more could have gone our way, but it wasn't to be. Not quite the fairy-tale ending we'd hoped for, but an epic story nonetheless! A journey of a long season, where they were one game away from losing their local league, to making it all the way to a top four place in Leeds (out of 90 schools may I add!).

Seasons often end in disappointment, unless you win it all, but after the initial sting, this one will surely be replaced with pride of a team who couldn't have given anymore, maximised their chances, and went out on their terms playing excellent, committed team football.

Well done lads!

Y6s thrash it out!

As attention turned back to World Series on Tuesday, it saw two heavy hitters from the Upper KS2 boys group go head to head as Bramham's Y6 boys travelled to play Shadwell's Y6 boys. Having claimed a victory in last year's World Series (something neither team had forgotten), everyone was motivated to earn bragging rights this year!

Luckily for the Federation, both teams won a game apiece, and even luckier that miraculously both games finished with a 5-2 score line, how's that for symmetry!

As the action got underway, it was Shadwell who had the advantage early on; after Jackson's initial try it was a potential 'Moment of the Week' from Ethan as his change of direction sent no less that two Bramham players sprawling on the floor; a moment you just had to admire to be fair! Further tries were added by Max (2) and Archie for good measure, both of which went on pretty incredible runs themselves. Sandwiched in between the Shadwell tries were a couple from Bramham first from Will and then Stanley, who'd bounced back from having one disallowed moments before!

As the heat ramped up, in the second game so did the errors and contact. A couple of 'no tags' for contact and the desperation to win resulted in some panicky fumbles. Despite these the quality was great and Bramham surged to a 2-0 lead. They were also able to take advantage of a Shadwell turnover when Jack sprinted down the left side to extend the lead. Despite fighting back through tries from Dexter and another from Max (plus great running from Samsaam, Oscar and Owen, the initial Bramham lead proved too much to overcome this time and was put out of reach when Adam scored late on down the right. Credit to Bodie whose initial hattrick gave Bramham that strong head start!

Shadwell Derby Ends in Split!

We're beginning to see teams come to the end of their World Series journey as the tournament enters its latter stages. This was the case for Shadwell's Y5 girls as they faced off against their own Y6s.

With both teams searching for their first win of the campaign, it was fitting that they both ended with one apiece Y5 stormed to a 3-1 lead in the first game, only to see Y6 claw back to victory as the game wore on. Sienna showed fantastic changes of direction to grab herself two early tries with Isla adding a third in between Sharn pulling one back for Y6.

The Y6 comeback started with Maya, who'd made brilliant runs all day and was unlucky not to score more. This time, however, she did manage it and it sparked a resurgence among the Y6 ranks.

Not long after a typical run from Kaya added another as she scythed through the Y5s like she was on a motorbike! As the first game ticked down, Y6 found one final breakthrough as Olivia managed to both get the ball down and stay on her feet (just!) to claim victory!

Not to be deterred by the setback, Y5 started afresh in the second game, although it took a while for the break though, almost half the game to be precise! Kaya once again found a way through to make the score 1-0. Y5 were ready to bounce back and did so as both Ivy and Kitty powered their way to the try-line.

Sharn also got her second try of the day to level the scores. Bear in mind a win for Y6 would keep their World Series first place hopes alive, anything less would put the title out of reach and into Bramham Y5 hands! As the Y6s searched for that all important winner, it would be Y5's Emilia who broke away against the pressure to score a try in the dying seconds, exacting revenge for the first game!

A great way to end the Series for Y5 as they just nicked the game right at the end. Y6 had enough time left for a couple of runs but to no avail. Y6's player of the day was Fevziie who made countless brilliant tags, especially in the second game to deny Y5 tries. Emilia got the vote for the Y5s, her winning try in the final game fresh in the memory of Y6 due to its importance!

The results made it official and we have our first World Series Champions in Bramham Y5 girls, whose lead at the top now cannot be caught! Well done girls!

Bramham Boys Play out Thriller!

As Week 4 drew to a close, there was just the small matter of Bramham Y3 Boys playing their own Y4 Boys. Both teams began the day undefeated and hoped to keep it that way. There were lots of great moments, Y4 were able to outscore Y3 6-2 in the first game, but Y3 brought it back in the second securing a brilliant 4-4 draw. It's rare a match report is dominated by one moment in particular, but that's the case here; the moment of the week is getting incorporated into a match report.

World Series Moment of the Week!

Despite hours looking in various dictionaries and thesaurus, Mr B still can't find the words to describe what he saw on Friday, such is the magnitude of one of Ben's tries. So, whilst he attempts to describe the moment, there is also an accompanying diagram to go with it!

After receiving the ball in his own half from Wilson (always credit the assistor in these situations!), Ben began his journey down the right only to have it blocked off by Y4s. So, he cut back behind his one team and tried the left flank; despite multiple Y4s in his way he managed to slip through no less than five tag attempts. Just as Ben found a bit of space there was another obstacle coming his way, this time in the form of a toddler who'd wandered onto the pitch (some fans didn't even see Ben pretty much hurdle the youngster such was the chaos on the pitch!)

Once through the gaps Ben even quickly checked he hadn't been tagged before setting off again, this time cutting back on himself which required taking on the whole team again! He eventually got the ball down over the line to the appreciation of the whole stadium! Truly one of the most remarkable tries ever witnessed!

The try was made all the more special by the huge effort Y4 put in to trying to tag Ben; they were crashing into each other, flying over the top of Ben and full on Superman diving in an attempt to grab a tag, but to no avail! World Series officials checked the tags after the game and could confirm there was no soap on them, nor were they stapled to Ben's belt!

Onrushing toddler

om asimily todates	
Decides to cut back in on himself	Y4 Collision

Credit to the other try scorers on the day (Wilson, Tristan, Charlie, Austin, Joey, Jake, Ryan and Louie!), all of whom put in tremendous work to help their teams. We once again had so many children involved which was brilliant to see! Not surprisingly, Ben got player of the day for Y3, and Jake took home the award for Y4. The results leave the group wide open still with all four teams still with a chance of grabbing top spot going into their final games!

Y3 Girls do themselves proud!

Bramham's Y3 girls once again made the trip over to Shadwell, this time to take on their Y4s. Not to be fazed by playing an older year group the team gave a cracking account of themselves and narrowly missed out on taking points off the Y4s in two close defeats.

These Y3s are showing such great attitude to improving and are using the World Series as a learning opportunity for the future. You could really see the defensive efforts from the whole squad, with players throwing themselves around the pitch in an effort to prevent Shadwell scoring! Notable moments in these games included tries from both Nelly and Aoife who each got one in both games!

On the Y4 side of things, they have a real chance of finishing in top spot. Having finished all of their games, they will now turn their attention to keeping track of Bramham's Y4 team, especially when they play Shadwell's Y3s on the final week who both also have aspirations to finish first!

Tryscorers for Y4 on Thursday were Milly, Alice and Ruby (like the Bramham scorers they all scored in both games!). Milly was also up there for moment of the week with another splendid try! Kimberly's brilliant effort on the defensive end gave her player of the day for

Shadwell and Nelly got it for Bramham. Well done to all involved for playing out two great games!

Latest League Tables!

As per previous World Series point systems every time a team plays a game they get a point just for playing because, why not! Each win is worth 3 points and a draw is worth 1. After week 4 here's what the tables look like!

Upper KS2 Boys':

Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	F:A	Points
Y6 Shadwell	4	3	0	1	19:14	13
Y6 Bramham	4	2	0	2	14:13	10
Y5 Bramham	4	2	0	2	14:14	10
Y5 Shadwell	4	1	0	3	14:20	7

Upper KS2 Girls':

Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	F:A	Points
Y5 Bramham	6	3	3	0	23:18	18
Y5 Shadwell	6	1	3	2	20:23	12
Y6 Shadwell	4	1	1	2	13:14	8
Y6 Bramham	4	0	3	1	15:16	7

Lower KS2 Boys':

Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	F:A	Points
Y4 Bramham	4	2	2	0	16:11	12
Y3 Bramham	4	1	2	1	12:15	9
Y3 Shadwell	4	0	3	1	9:10	7
Y4 Shadwell	4	0	3	1	8:9	7

Lower KS2 Girls':

Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	F:A	Points
Y4 Shadwell	6	4	0	2	18:13	18
Y3 Shadwell	4	3	0	1	15:12	13
Y4 Bramham	2	1	0	1	3:4	5
Y3 Bramham	4	0	0	4	9:16	4