

GHA - Schools Competitions Report - March 2024

FINAL TOURNAMENT ENTRIES - The final numbers were as follows:

	U18 Tier 3	U16 Tier 3	U14 Tier 2	U13 Tier 1	U13 Tier 2	U12	U11
Girls entries	6 (5)	10 (7)	13 (10)	3 (2)	12 (11)	10 (8)	5 (5)
Boys entries	2 (2)	1 (1)	4 (3)	3 (4)	6 (3)	6 (4)	4 (4)

Last years entry numbers in brackets

RESULTS

	Girls Winners	Girls Runners-Up	Boys Winners	Boys Runners-Up
U18 - Tier 4	Pates Grammar School	KLB	Rendcomb*	St Edwards
U16 - Tier 3	Balcarras	KLB	KLB**	-
U14 - Tier 2	CLC	Balcarras	KLB	Leckhampton
U13 - Tier 1	Kings School	Cheltenham Prep	Dean Close	Cheltenham Prep
U13 - Tier 2	CLC	Hatherop	KLB	Hatherop
U12	Balcarras	Kings	Cheltenham Prep	Kings
U11	Dean Close Prep	Richard Pate School	Cheltenham Prep	Dean Close

* only 2 entries

** only 1 entry

COACHING SUPPORT INITIATIVE

Since our last meeting, James Doughty and I visited Amie Holford at Crypt Grammar School to talk in more detail about how the funds GHA awarded Crypt School could be put to best use. A visit to the indoor sports hall proved that indoor hockey would be the best option for the school to start moving forward with improving their hockey provision and James has spoken further with Amie to progress this. Needless to say both Amie and the school leadership team were thrilled with the funding they will be receiving from GHA and are looking forward to getting indoor hockey going. I also received a donation from Cheltenham College to pass on to the Crypt School - a huge goalie bag filled with sticks, balls & cones.

At time of writing, I am unsure of how enquiries from other schools (Bournside and Farmors) are progressing.

ADDITIONAL TOURNAMENT - STATE SCHOOLS ONLY

I had squeezed in a date for this new initiative by England Hockey and planned to run an extra tournament on March 8th which was the slip date for the boys U11 & U12 tournament. Unfortunately due to the weather, I had to use the slip date for the U11/U12 boys tournament so had to push the state school tournament back twice; settling on March 22nd after realising the original date of March 15th was Gold Cup day and Cheltenham would be at a stand still! Unfortunately, due to the date changes, most schools had to drop out as the final date was too close to the end of term. Having started out with 14 teams entered, including some schools that have not been part of a GHA tournament during my time in this role, this was reduced down to 5 teams and so I reluctantly decided to postpone the festival. I hope to run the event at the start of the summer term instead and also hope that it will become a fixture in the main calendar as there is clearly enthusiasm for it from the schools.

NEXT SEASON

I have started looking at dates for next season. Depending what happens moving forwards, I am happy to set dates, book pitches and send out entry forms and collate entries if required which can all be done before the AGM.