

#### Under 16 Girls Grand Final

NSW Thunder 5 (Kiara Farquhar, Jessica Elliot 2, Jessica Dominello 2) Queensland 2 (Natalie Tathem, Shannon Tathem) A 50-strong crowd of cheering Queenslanders wasn't enough to prevent NSW Thunder Under 16 girls from taking out the national championship. Thunder kicked off proceedings, signaling their intentions from the start and grabbing a one-goal lead for their efforts. Queensland's captain Natalie Tathem then broke through and delicately placed a chip over the NSW keeper to level the score. It was then the maroon girls who took the lead, however, they were pegged back quickly by Thunder who took control of the match from there. Kiara Farquhar peeled off from her defender on the line to give NSW the lead before Jessica Elliott and Jessica Dominello capitalised on the lead to close out the match in style.

AWD Grand Final Southern NSW 5 (Mitch Forrest, Tim Walsh, John Ruiz, Rocco Musumeci 2) ACT Cobras 1 (Cameron Gudgeon). Southern NSW successfully defended their position as national champions, winning the Athletes With a Disability title for a second consecutive year. Months of training paid off for the side who leaped to a 5-1 victory over the ACT Cobras. Mitch Forrest opened the scoring for Southern NSW before Captain Rocco Musumeci netted a goal of his own with a tidy finish. There was no love lost in the match with both sides proving worthy of a spot in the final. The tackles were tough and the commitment was stronger than ever in the tournament. ACT did their best to pull a goal back but they were denied on several occasions by Southern NSW's national shot stopper Nathan Whalen. Cameron Gudgeon was a clear standout for the Cobras and he grabbed a goal back in the second half but Southern were just too strong for their opponents, racing out to a 5-1 lead.

Under 16 boys Grand Final NSW Thunder 6 (Daniel Araujo 2, Zac Ribeiro 2, Shannon Fielding, Daniel Fornito) ACT Cobras 0. NSW Thunder continued their dominance at the Futsal Nationals, being crowned undefeated champions. Remnants of last year's Under 15's championship side were evident and the Thunder definitely turned up for the occasion. NSW faced an ACT Cobras side who looked very strong through the group stages. But the score line was very different to the 2-2 draw the two sides shared in round two. It took just two minutes for NSW attacker Daniel Araujo to break through the ACT defence and take his side to a 1-0 lead. NSW then held onto possession patiently, relegating ACT's only real threat to a counter-attack. NSW doubled their advantage just five minutes after the first goal when Daniel Fornito drew in the opposition goalkeeper and offloaded to Zac Ribeiro for an easy finish. The Cobras' best chance came in the second half when a long ball in the air was met well on the volley but parried away by the NSW 'keeper. It didn't take long for the floodgates to open as Zac Ribeiro and Daniel Araujo both sealed a brace. ACT were left with no chance but to use the fifth man option, putting an extra man on the field and leaving the goals unmanned. That decision proved costly with NSW gladly sending another two goals into the open net.

Open Men Grand Final NSW Thunder 3 (Glenn Smith (og), Gregory Giovenali 2) ACT Cobras 1 (Robbie Cattanaach). NSW Thunder Open Men's side have been crowned national champions once more after a tight 3-1 victory over ACT Cobras in the final. Fate threatened to deliver a repeat of NSW's dramatic penalty shootout win at the same stage, but Greg Giovenali snatched a brace in extra time give his side back-to-back championship wins. There was little to separate the two sides in the first half with NSW unable to latch onto a series of through balls and ACT

struggling to find a way past Thunder goalkeeper Gavin O'Brien. NSW's breakthrough came in fortunate circumstances when an attempted cross was delivered off a Cobras defender's heels, leaving the ACT number 1 with no chance. But the Cobras bounced back immediately with Robbie Cattnach firing a spectacular shot into the top corner before 'keeper O'Brien could make a move. NSW looked more confident heading into extra time and it was Giovenali who struck early with a neat finish followed by a vibrant celebration. Giovenali then added further misery for ACT, exploiting some tired defending and rattling a quick free kick into the back of the net. ACT's only other chance came late in half time but they were unable to convert a free kick in good position.

Open Women Grand Final NSW Thunder 2 (Stephanie Haim (pen), Renee Tomkins) ACT Cobras 1 (Michaela Day). NSW continued its dominance at the 2012 Nationals with a grueling 2-1 victory to the Thunder Open Women. ACT had the better of the early exchanges and they created a number of chances before finally taking the lead through Michaela Day. The deficit didn't seem to phase Thunder who worked their way back up the field and earned a definite penalty which was neatly converted. With scores level at half time and both sides looking assured in defence, it was going to take a piece of brilliance to break the deadlock. That brilliance came though player of the match Renee Tomkins who received the ball on her chest from a corner and coolly volleyed the ball low into the far corner. Some scrambled defence on the NSW goal line denied the Cobras any chance of victory.

#### Youth Men

NSW Lightning 3 NSW Thunder 3 after extra time (NSW Lightning won 5-4 on penalties)

#### Youth Women

ACT Cobras 1 (Erin Clout) NSW Thunder 0 after extra time