



CAPITAL FOOTBALL
MEDIA RELEASE

Friday 15th January 2010

31st FFA Futsal National Championships
11-15 January 2010, Canberra

Sky Blue is the colour in junior finals

NSW Thunder were in dominant form in the junior sections of the 31st FFA Futsal National Championships on Grand Final day at the AIS Arena in Canberra. The Thunder claimed eight of the twelve finals available at age-group level with some sparkling performances throughout the day.

8.00am - Under-11 Girls

NSW Lightning 2 (Danielle Francis, Madeline Fox) defeated ACT Cobras 1 (Annabel Grey-Beitz) There was heartbreak in the morning for the ACT Cobras girls under-11 team as they fell to a last-gasp 1-2 loss to NSW Lightning. The Cobras girls led for most of the match after taking an early first-half lead through Annabel Grey-Beitz before the Lightning's second half comeback where they struck twice in the space of sixty seconds. Danielle Francis levelled the score before Madeline Fox won the final when her long range shot deflected in to the roof of the net.

8.00am - Under-11 Boys

NSW Thunder 8 (Ethan Tsiribos (2), Michael Kotzambasis (2), Jordan Koton (2), Ryoya Ito (2)) defeated NSW Lightning 0 The Thunder were far too strong for the Lightning with a comprehensive 8-0 victory in the under-11 final. Thunder's Jordan Koton was superb, creating several chances for his team with his quick feet, dangerous running and speedy counter attacks whilst goalkeeper, and man of the match, Dominic Breckenridge was impregnable at the back. The goals were shared around with Ethan Tsiribos, Michael Kotzambasis and Ryoya Ito joining Koton on the scoresheet with two goals each.

9.00am - Under-12 Girls

NSW Thunder 4 (Emily Kos (2), Rhianna Pollicina, Ruby Mosca) defeated Victoria 0 Player of the match Rhianna Pollicina was in superb form in the girls under-12 final leading her NSW Thunder team mates to a 4-0 win over Victoria. Pollicina scored a fine goal and was instrumental in her teams desiccation of a gallant Victoria rearguard action. Emily Kos grabbed a double and Ruby Mosca the other as the Thunder recorded a deserved win completing a week of competitive action.

9.00am - Under-12 Boys

Victoria Magic 10 (Reis Argon (2), Jesse Mills-Wart hold (2), Anthony Doze (2), Adrian Veii (2), Omar Amman he (2)) defeated Solomon Islands 3 (Albert Witney, Steve Eros, Muffed Kirra) Victoria Magic claimed the under-12 crown with a convincing display against the Solomon Islands strolling to a 10-3 victory. Backed by a vociferous crowd the Islanders entertained with some flair futsal but were dominated physically by their larger opposition. Magic shared the goals amongst five different

players with imposing stopper Ardian Vuviqi claiming the man of the match award with a commanding display, including a belting free-kick out of the top draw.

10.00am - Under-13 Girls

NSW Thunder 5 (Allyse Tasevski (3), Zoe Zaczek, Catherine Bullivant) defeated NSW Lightning 1 (Miho McKay) Thunder bested Lightning in the all New South Wales clash in the under-13 final with a comprehensive 5-1 victory. Skipper Sam Scarlato led by example, inspiring her team across the court and claiming the Player of the Match award. Allyse Tasevski was sharp in front of goal bagging a Grand Final hat-trick with Zoe Zaczek and Catherine Bullivant also netting. Miho McKay managed a consolation strike for the Lightning, her goal levelling the scores at one stage, but it was not to be.

10.00am - Under-13 Boys

NSW Thunder 6 (Vincent Gianini (4), Tony Lo (2)) defeated Victoria 4 (Damien Miskulin (2), David Prosia, Dimitar Mitkov) A man of the match performance from Vincent Gianini ensured NSW Thunder claimed the boys under-13 title in an absorbing clash. Gianini struck four times for the Thunder, almost single-handedly winning the match, and was ably supported by a double from Tony Lo. Trailing 2-0 early the Victorians staged spirited fight back striking four times in reply to send NSW nerves jangling. Victoria pressed for the goals that would send the match into extra-time but were repelled by Thunder 'keeper John Dimitrakas as NSW held on.

11.00am - Under-14 Girls

NSW Thunder 4 (Carla Caligiuri, Carla Canini, Vanisha Kumar, own goal) defeated Queensland 2 (Jessica Dillon, Chelsea Harper) NSW Thunder's domination of the girl's junior competitions continued in the under-14 age group with a 4-2 win over Queensland. To a background of noise from both sets of supporters the match was played in a terrific, fast-paced style. Player of the match Carla Canini was the standout for Thunder, scoring once and being involved with all the Thunder's constructive plays. Carla Caligiuri and Vanisha Kumar were the Thunder's other scorers, as well as an unfortunate own goal, whilst Jessica Dillon and Chelsea Harper were the scorers for a beaten, but far from outclassed, Queensland.

11.00am - Under-14 Boys

Victoria 5 (Kaan Korkmaz (2), Bradley Blumenthal, Dylan Murnane, own goal) defeated NSW Thunder 2 (Hagi Gilgoro, Christopher Koustasis) Victoria stunned NSW Thunder coming back from 2-0 down to steal the under-14 boys Grand Final by 5-2. The Victorians staged a remarkable five minute rally that saw them go on the rampage and score five times without reply late in the second half just when it seemed that victory was beyond them. Man of the match Kaan Korkmaz struck twice, finishing off flowing moves, whilst Bradley Blumenthal and Dylan Murnane also found the back of the net. Victoria's fifth goal was an own goal. It had all seemed so different early on after Hagi Gilgoro and Christopher Koustasis had fired Thunder ahead, but that was before Victoria's late surge.

12.00 noon - Under-15 Girls

NSW Thunder 3 (Madison Strott, Katherine Hawkes, own goal) defeated ACT Cobras 0 Goals from Madison Strott, Katherine Hawkes and an own goal ensured that the NSW Thunder won the girls under-15 tournament at the expense of hometown team ACT Cobras. The Cobras battled hard and had several half-chances that the Thunder 'keeper, Sophie May Scott, was able to beat away whilst at the other end the ACT Cobras goalkeeper Tahlia Davidson kept her team in the match for much of the encounter making a string of fine saves. Ultimately, the Thunder proved too strong in the end though in an entertaining fixture.

12.00 noon - Under-15 Boys

NSW Lightning 4 (Joshua Ibini-Isea (2), Michael Cimino (2)) defeated NSW Thunder 2 (Jonathan Kontalis, Sam Perre) NSW Lightning upset the NSW Thunder in the boys under-16 final coming from behind to score a shock 4-2 victory. Thunder were expected to take the honours and started sharply

with goals to Jonathan Kontalis and Sam Perre. However, once Lightning had got themselves back into the match with a goal just before half-time the Thunder began to creak. With man of the match Michael Cimino pulling the strings and scoring twice, the Lightning were good value for their entertaining victory. Joshua Ibini-Isea grabbed the other two Lightning goals to seal a fantastic game.

1.00pm - Under-16 Girls

NSW Thunder 2 (Ivana Bojanovic, Rachel Perrins) defeated Victoria 0 The Thunder's extraordinary run of form continued as the under-16 girl's team retained the championship won by their predecessors in 2009 with a 2-0 Grand Final win over a tenacious Victoria side. Having watched their under-12 to under-15's claim trophies the girls were in no mood to spoil the Sky Blue party and duly converted their dominance through goals from Ivana Bojanovic and Rachel Perrins. Marie Svinos was named Player of the Match after controlling possession and initiating many attacks for the Thunder.

1.00pm - Under-16 Boys

NSW Thunder 6 (Bruno Pivato (2), Cristian Ciampa, Tom Collins, Clayton Musumeci, Michael Figueira) defeated ACT Cobras 0 Like their female counterparts the Thunder under-16 squad scored a convincing win in their Grand Final easily despatching ACT Cobras 6-0. After conceding an early goal the Cobras were always going to be up against it with the Thunder experts at, not just preserving the lead, but extending it further, And this they duly did adding a further five unanswered goals to place a sword in the heart of the ACT ambitions. On target for the champions were Man of the Match Bruno Pivato (2), Cristian Ciampa, Tom Collins, Clayton Musumeci and Michael Figueira. For the Cobras Ryan Keir performed well in the beaten side.

ROLL OF HONOUR

GIRLS

Under-11: NSW Lightning
Under-12: NSW Thunder
Under-13: NSW Thunder
Under-14: NSW Thunder
Under-15: NSW Thunder
Under-16: NSW Thunder

BOYS

Under-11: NSW Thunder
Under-12: Victoria Magic
Under-13: NSW Thunder
Under-14: Victoria
Under-15: NSW Lightning
Under-16: NSW Thunder

END

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