

## **Midlands Girls 7's Tournament, Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2011, Fife Southern Rugby Club, Rosyth**

Whilst boy's rugby union is largely finished for 2011, the girls continue to move forward in this latest regional event.

Teams from Fife and Tayside came to Fife Southern Rugby Club to compete for the Midland Sevens Cup. Over 40 girls were in attendance in this U15 competition supported by coaches, family and friends as well as a healthy number of club volunteers. This round robin tournament that saw The Community School of Auchterarder take the top spot.

Newcomers, St Columba's combined with girls from Bell Baxter High School made their mark in their first formal competition of the season missing out marginally in a number of games. Glenwood HS and Crieff HS showed great strength in many areas of their game, in attack particularly, but couldn't manage to secure the wins needed. Both these teams continue to compete well and the improvement from both sides was evident compared to competitions earlier in the season.

Fife Girls Rugby Development Coordinator, Nick Burge was "delighted with the way that Fife Southern Rugby Club has opened its doors to this group of girls. All the staff and their supporters have been made very welcome. This event's success has been largely down to them; John Beech in particular, along with the Fife Regional Development Officers who continue to work tirelessly towards encouraging and facilitating both the boys and girls game. It has been great to see girls from not only the more established schools compete well, but to have our emerging Fife Schools here and performing very well on their first formal stage".

This is the penultimate formal event for girls rugby this season, with the Emirates 7's weekend hosting a girls sevens tournament at Murrayfield to conclude a busy year of competition. The season officially ends in Fife at St Columba's High School in June with their final monthly Cluster Event.

Burge added, "There seems to be a lot of girls out there who have an interest in trying rugby. One of my jobs over the coming months is to try and identify and attempt to remove the barriers to girls attending and enjoying our events. The girls here today seemed to have had a really positive experience with lots of smiles and laughter matched with sportsmanship and competitiveness and hopefully word will continue to filter back to schools, clubs and communities to further grow the number of girls participating rugby nationally.

For more information about girls rugby in Fife please contact Nick Burge on 0777 3794965 or email [girlsrugby.fife@gmail.com](mailto:girlsrugby.fife@gmail.com)