

Tuesday, December 10, 2024

## CIS secure Appleby Under 18 high school football titles

The always competitive 2024 Appleby Under 18 high school football leagues concluded last week with Cayman International School (CIS) retaining the boys and girls titles.

Due to the increased number of schools participating in the boy's league this year, organisers altered the league structure. In previous years, a single league system was played whereby the school with the most points at the end of the season were crowned champions. For the 2024 season, a Champions Cup and Consolation Cup system was introduced where schools were divided into two groups with the top two schools in each group advancing to the Champions Cup and the remaining schools competing in the Consolation Cup.

The girl's league remained a single-league system.

CIS A stormed to the boy's 2024 title with a perfect record in Group A defeating John Gray High School, St. Ignatius Catholic High School, Cayman Academy and CIFEC, securing the number one seed going into the Champions Cup and setting up a semi-final battle with Group B's second place finishers, Cayman Prep & High School.

The game itself was an absorbing encounter as penalties would determine the first finalist. CIS managed to outshoot their opponents 6-5 after sudden death penalties (1-1 full time; 4-4 penalties and 1-0 sudden death penalties).

The second semi-final featured Group B undefeated winners Clifton Hunter High School (CHHS) facing off against Group A runners-up John Gray High School (JGHS). CHHS advanced to the final after JGHS were unable to field a team.

In the final, much like their semi-final, CIS overcame a very talented CHHS in sudden death penalties 7-6 (1-1 full time; 5-5 penalties and 1-0 sudden death penalties).

The Boy's Appleby Cup was presented to the CIS A team by Appleby representative Lindsay Japal following the final.

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JGHS secured third-place in the Champions Cup as Cayman Prep & High School were unable to play due to exams.

In the Consolation Cup, newcomers CIFEC defeated St. Ignatius Catholic High School 3-0 to secure their first high school title in their debut season after defeating CIS B 6-1 in the semi-final. St. Ignatius Catholic sealed their place in the final after defeating Cayman Academy 7-2 in their semi-final. Cayman Academy had defeated Triple C 4-3 in a playoff game.

On the girl's side, two-time defending champions CIS Blue sealed their third Appleby Under 18 title in a row, going undefeated in the process. Victories over St. Ignatius Catholic (6-1), Cayman Prep & High School (4-0), JGHS (6-0), CHHS (6-0) and CIS White (6-0) were more than enough to seal the title.

Appleby's representative Lindsay Japal was on hand to present The Girl's Appleby Cup to the champions following their final game against CIS White.

Schools competing in the 2024 Appleby Under 18 high school leagues included Cayman Academy (boys), Cayman International School (boys and girls – two teams in each league), Cayman Prep & high School (boys and girls), CHHS (boys and girls), JGHS (boys and girls), St. Ignatius Catholic (boys and girls), Triple C (boys) and newcomers CIFEC (boys).

Complete 2024 scores and standings can be viewed on the Cayman Youth Football Leagues (CYFL) website at *www.caymanyouthfootball.ky*.



Photo:



CIS Blue (blue) retained the 2024 Appleby Under 18 Girl's title.

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