



ScotlandIS beat reigning champions to take title

On a blistering Friday in May, eleven teams arrived in Edinburgh for the highlight of the football season - the 2010 **ScotlandIS** 5-a-side football tournament.

Divided into two groups the teams fought it out in search of footballs' greatest prize – the stunning ScotlandIS 5-a-side trophy.

Group stages –

Group A - The 2009 runners up Bright Purple were joined by last years semi finalists (and previous winners) 9-20 Recruitment, RBS, Consica, Lumison and tournament debutants Peach Digital to make up group A.

The group was eventually won by RBS who managed to beat 9-20 Recruitment into first place. A special mention should go to Consica who, after picking up last years wooden spoon (whilst shipping 24 goals), managed to only concede an impressive 5 goals this time round. After the highs of last year, Bright Purple sadly failed to re-discover their form and after drawing three of their five games, were eliminated at the group stage.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
RBS	5	3	2	0	9	4	5	11
9-20 Recruitment	5	3	1	1	9	3	6	10
Peach Digital	5	2	1	2	7	6	1	7
Bright Purple	5	1	3	1	6	8	-2	6
Consica	5	1	2	2	4	5	-1	4
Lumison	5	0	1	4	6	14	-8	1

Group B – The only known quantity in Group B were last years' winners, ScottishPower. They were joined by first time entrants in the form of Amor Group, Radiator, brightsolid and a ScotlandIS side.

Amor Group notched up the days biggest win, putting six past brightsolid, and it was brightsolid who went on to win this years' wooden spoon They were also guilty, in the words of guest commentator Alan Hansen, of "diabolical defending". Radiator too were outplayed and outmanoeuvred, picked up their only points in a 2-1 defeat of brightsolid.

Topping the group and the first team into the semi finals were ScotlandIS, who managed three wins and a draw from their four games. Also joining them in the semi finals were reigning champions ScottishPower, who averaged almost 3 goals a game.



	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
ScotlandIS	4	3	1	0	15	6	9	10
Scottish Power	4	2	2	0	11	3	8	8
Amor Group	4	2	1	1	9	5	4	7
Radiator	4	1	3	0	3	11	-8	3
Bright Solid	4	0	0	4	1	14	-13	0

Semi Finals –

With four teams progressing from the group stages, the tournament moved onto the knockout phase.

The first semi final was tense and hard fought with the might of RBS taking on cup holders ScottishPower. Both teams are stalwarts of the ScotlandIS five a sides and have battled each other for the title on several occasions. Whilst RBS delighted with flair and a flowing game, ScottishPower's exceptional defence held steady.

Something had to give - and unfortunately for RBS it was them. ScottishPower converted their chances, seeing off RBS attempts at goal and ran out comfortable 3-0 winners.

In the other semi, 9-20 Recruitment took a deserved 2-0 lead over the youthful ScotlandIS side (the second goal, a contender for Goal of the Tournament).

ScotlandIS battled back to make it 2-2 and grabbed the winner towards the end with a shot which took a wicked deflection (the player insists it was goal bound anyway – we have our doubts).

RBS 0 – 3 ScottishPower

ScotlandIS 3 – 2 9-20 Recruitment

Final –

27 games had been played, 80 goals scored, blood, sweat and tears shed, and hundreds of oranges devoured.

Only two teams from the starting eleven remained standing (many already recovering in the bar). ScotlandIS, debutants and tournament top scorers were up against ScottishPower, the experienced 2009 winners with the best defensive record in the tournament.

After meeting in the group stages in a game which ended 3-3, no-one was predicting the outcome of this clash. The game started brightly with both teams having efforts on goal. ScotlandIS broke the deadlock and soon doubled their lead after some play which wouldn't look out of place in the Bernabeu. ScottishPower had chances but solid keeping from the ScotlandIS no.1 and lack of shooting boots kept the score at 2-0. ScotlandIS then made it 3-0 through a great solo effort and despite conceding a late goal they held on to their lead to triumph 3-1.

ScottishPower 1 – 3 ScotlandIS