Impeesa win the District 6-a-side Cup – 20TH October 2018.

Congratulations to the Impeesa football team for winning the District 6-a-side football competition this weekend. This year’s revised format involved the boys playing in a round-robin mini-league against 5 other teams, one of which being their friendly local rivals the Impalas. In an exciting afternoon of football it all came down to the last of the 15 matches, which was between Impeesa and the 17th – a pressure match which the boys took in their stride to comfortably win and finish top of the league with 3 wins and 2 draws, 11 goals scored and only 1 conceded. They were therefore thoroughly deserved competition winners.

As has been Impeesa’s tradition in recent years, the boys started slowly with two draws against the 3/15th and Park Street before building up the momentum which saw them win the next two games against Colney Heath and Impala, by the same 3-0 scoreline both times. That meant that that the final match of the competition was between two teams, Impeesa and the 17th, either of whom could have become the champions. By that stage Impeesa had 8 points with a +6 goal difference while the 17th had 7 points and a +5 goal difference. The only other team which could possibly win, the 5/13th, had already completed their 5 games and had 10 points and a +6 goal difference, so a draw in the final match would give the 5/13th the tournament. In the event there was only one team in the final match, and Impeesa’s pressing and tackling ensured that the game was played almost entirely in the opposition’s half and the boys ran out comfortable 4-0 winners in the end – their best performance of the competition.

With only one goal conceded all tournament, which was in the first match when the boys were still finding their feet, the Impeesa defence was rock solid, and so great credit goes to those who played in defence during those 5 matches: Callum, Sammy, Nicholas, Luke, Charlie Waters and Charlie Reid, and to all 4 volunteer goalkeepers – Dylan, Charlie Reid, Sammy and Luke.

The midfield was similarly impressive, controlling that area of the pitch in all their 5 matches, so the midfielders, mainly Ozan (who also opened the scoring for us), Nicholas, Luke, Sammy and Charlie Waters, showed themselves to be particularly effective against the opposition.

The attack was lively throughout, and even in the first two matches when we scored just once, with a little bit more luck we would have netted a lot more. However, when we did find our scoring boots in the last 3 matches, there was an avalanche of goals, so well done to the strikers Dylan, Luke, Charlie Reid and especially the goal scorers Tom (7 goals) and Ronan (3 goals).

A special mention must go to Tom for scoring a hat-trick in two successive matches, including some spectacular long-range efforts, though not forgetting that football is above all else a team game and everyone in the squad played their part in winning the competition.

So well done to all the players, but also to the parents and other relatives who came to watch, as it was a thoroughly enjoyable afternoon. Thanks also to Ian Woods and Phill Coates the organisors.