



# Tip-off

GBWR's official  
monthly  
newsletter

May 2015 Issue #7

Getting to know... | Taster Sessions | Friendlies | BT WWRC15 | BT National Championships

## GBWR is coming to Norfolk

Great Britain Wheelchair Rugby are working in partnership with Active Norfolk to bring this exciting Paralympic sport to Norwich.

We are always trying to expand the sport to all corners of Britain and we are going to run four taster sessions in May and June open to any disabled person over the age of 16.

Experienced coaches will deliver the sessions and rugby chairs are provided. If this is a sport you have thought of trying then this is your chance to experience it at a fun recreational session with all the equipment and support provided.

The sessions are taking place at UEA Sportspark, Sportshall Norwich Research Park, Norwich, NR4 7TJ from 1.30-3pm. The first sessions took place in May and the next sessions are on the 13th & 27th June 2015.

Volunteers are also welcome to come to the sessions as we look to expand our growing network of people who help build the profile of the sport.

For more details and to register, please contact Paul Arnold, GBWR Regional Development Officer, on 07872 664 927 or at paul.arnold@gbwr.org.uk.



## Newsletter Suggestions!

At GBWR we are always looking to improve our monthly newsletter.

If you have a story or any suggestions regarding content, design, or interviewees then don't hesitate to get in touch.

Contact Nathaniel Holland- nat.holland@hotmail.co.uk with any feedback.



## BT WWRC15 tickets now on sale!

Tickets are now on sale for the first BT World Wheelchair Rugby Challenge that will take place in the Copper Box Arena at the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park in October.

Tickets will be priced from as little as £5 raising to £45. They are available online from Ticketmaster- [www.ticketmaster.co.uk](http://www.ticketmaster.co.uk).

"Our aim is to provide a world-class event for the public and the many Rugby World Cup visitors to England, it will also be a great opportunity for the GB team to play the best in the world a year out from Rio," Great Britain Wheelchair Rugby chief executive David Pond said.

Pictures- Martin Saych



## Safeguarding Update

The updated 'Safe and Sound' GBWR safeguarding policy is now available on the GBWR website.

All clubs are advised to keep a copy of the safeguarding policy in their club folder at all times and it can be found here: <http://gbwr.org.uk/home/about-us/about-gbwr/governance/safeguarding/>

## BT National Championships Report

### BT National Championships- Cup

London Wheelchair Rugby Club's Storm team won the inaugural BT National Championships at the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park Copper Box Arena at the beginning of the month.

The side narrowly beat Crusaders 45-43 to take the title. It was a packed three days of rugby with two prizes on offer, the Cup and the Shield. All of the BT Super Series Division One sides were joined by the top four teams from Division Two (Sharks, Bulls, Ospreys and Hawks) to compete for the cup. The 12 Cup teams were split into four pools of three. By the end of the pools Crash, RGC, Storm and Crusaders topped their pools with Sharks, Tigers, Warriors and Marauders finishing runners up in their respective groups at the end of day one.

Day two saw the crossover games to confirm who would be competing in the final placing games and after another day of close fixtures it was the Hawks and Ospreys competing in the 11th/12th placed game. The Ospreys came out 56-24 winners to cement the first two final standings in the Cup.

North East Bulls and West Coast Burn battled it out in the 9th/10th placed game with Division Two side Bulls just edging out their Division One opposition with a 47-46 win.

On the final day of Cup action, newly promoted Solent Sharks ended their weekend in 8th position following a 60-50 defeat to Irish side Gaelic Warriors. Tigers managed to end their season in fifth place after a big win against Marauders with the score line finishing 67-27.

Crash took third with a 54-35 victory over RGC with Crusaders narrowly missing out on the trophy with a close final defeat to Storm.

### Individual Player Awards

The individual winners for the cup and shield were as follows;

Cup:

- 0.5- Dave Goddard (Storm)
- 1.0- Ryan Cowling (West Coast Burn)
- 1.5- Coral Batey (West Coast Crash)
- 2.0- Steve Brown (Kent Crusaders)
- 2.5- Mandip Sehmi (Kent Crusaders)
- 3.0/3.5- Jim Roberts (Storm)
- MVP- Ayaz Bhuta (West Coast Crash)



Shield:

- 0.5- Ciaran Pryce (Caledonian Crushers)
- 1.0- Luke Wilson (Gloucester)
- 1.5- David Barber (pictured) (Canterbury)
- 2.5- John Parfitt (Gloucester)
- 3.0-4.0- Issy Bailey (Gloucester)
- MVP- Ollie Mangion (Canterbury)

### BT National Championships- Shield

It was a successful weekend for Division Three side Canterbury, who managed to win the Shield as well as gain promotion to Division Two with a victory over Caledonian Crushers.

The competition was between the bottom two teams of Division Two (Crushers and Hammerheads) and the top two sides of Division Three (Gloucester and Canterbury).

The Kent side, who are coached by Crusaders player and Cup runner-up Steve Brown, took the Shield with an emphatic 40-25 win over the Crushers. Brown's side had already beaten the Crushers 36-15 in the opening Shield game to gain promotion for next season's BT Super Series Division Two.

It was a fight between Gloucester and Solent Hammerheads for third place when the Shield came to the final two games with the BT Super Series Division Three champions Gloucester winning the game 35-9.

It was a fantastic and competitive weekend of rugby for all the teams involved to sign off a brilliant 2014-15 season.

### Getting to know...

#### Ayaz Bhuta

**Team:**

West Coast Crash

**Age:**

26

**Favourite Food:**

Chicken

**Sporting Idol:**

David Beckham



**Favourite sport away from Wheelchair Rugby:**

Football- Manchester United fan

**Proudest moment in Wheelchair Rugby:**

Being awarded MVP in my first European Championships with GB

**Hopes for the future:**

Win the 2015 European Championships and then get selected and win a medal at Rio 2016

**A fun fact about yourself:**

I have a phobia of public toilets!

### Contact Us



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