

Huge participation in 18th "DNV-GL CRYcket"

Just like the last year, this year too the Almighty has a full day of cloud cover for the "DNV-GL CRYcket 2015" children's cricket tournament held on 10th April. It kept the temperatures low and spirits high. Coupled with a full grass ground at the Fahaheel Sports Club, the event had all the ingredients to make it a memorable day – full of fun, enthusiasm and competition. Luckily we were also spared any likely rain interruptions which may have fallen any time, due to the overcast sky.

Starting from 1998, the Friends of CRY Club – Kuwait (FOCC-Kuwait) has organized "CRYcket" annually. The 18th tournament this year hit the 20 teams mark, only for the third time in its history. The tournament is open to all children, under 14, who may organize themselves in teams with participants from any school, nationality or locality. With over 270 children participating, it's a huge climb from the 90 participants in the inaugural match 17 years ago. "CRYcket" is an annual softball cricket tournament, played in 7-over match format, and completed in a single day.

DNV-GL has continued to sponsor and support FOCC year after year and hence the name "DNV-GL CRYcket 2015". Ten teams each participated in the Under-14 and Under-12 categories. This year too, for the second time, an all-girls team "Kuwait Women" played in the U-14 category. One other Under-12 team "Latifa Lion Cubs" enlisted with 4 girl participants, which was great fun to watch.

In the final of the U-14 trophy, the "Cricket Coaching Club (CCC) Seniors", clinched the winner's trophy, playing against "All Children Cricket Academy" who took the runners-up place. In the U-12 category, "PACE-XI Juniors A" were victorious and the "DPS Red Titans" came in second place. The Payer-of-the-tournament award in the U-14 category was earned by Shiv Govind of CCC Seniors and in the U-12 category it was Anurag Divekar of DPS Red Titans. A special Trophy for the youngest player went to Zaid Khokar of RCC Juniors B, who was all of 6 y 10 m of age.

M/s DNV-GL – Kuwait Branch, sponsored the event, along with TikTok Watches and American Tourister as Silver sponsors and Hussain & Qaisar International Ltd as co-sponsors. We also thank other sponsors Career Hunters, Oriental Restaurant, BankMuscat, Al-Mailem Tyres, Gulf Mart, Air India, Curry Leaves Restaurant, Al-Ahli Bank of Kuwait, Dar Al-Saha Polyclinic, Payal Jewellers, KAPICO Travels, Kuwait Toastmasters Club and Well-wishers.

Our special thanks to the Umpires and scorers from Kuwait Cricket Association who are all experts in their respective fields and the event's mainstays, without whom the event is not possible. We are grateful to HE the Ambassador of India, Shri Sunil Jain for supporting FOCC. We also acknowledge the support of the news publishers Arab Times, Kuwait Times, Q8india.com, IndiansInKuwait.com, goa-world.com, mangalorean.com, canaraworld.com, abroadindians.com, daijiworld.com and goanet.org as well as the Fahaheel Sports Club for providing us the venue. We also thank CRY India for being our invisible strength, year after year.

The CRYBUDDIES, (children who devoted their time for the event) Enaam Merchant, Vidit Shah, Lohit Vigneshwar, Prapti Mishra, Qaisarali Merchant and Sreeniketh Madabhushi were in full steam to keep the KID'S CORNER, the Buy for CRY stall, Essay and Drawing Competitions running and entertaining the children between their matches. This year some very special items were donated by our silver sponsors, along with the usual toys, books and other interesting items on bargain sale, which were donated by good Samaritans. The Raffle draw was again hugely successful with 11 fabulous prizes to be won.

The participating teams in the "DNV-GL CRYcket 2014" tournament were: Under-14 Category: All Children Cricket Academy, Cricket Coaching Club (CCC) Seniors, DPS Blue Strikers, DPS Red Devils, Future Challengers, Jabriya Giants, Kuwait Women, MACEAA Tigers, Mangaf Cricket Club and PACE-XI Seniors.

The Under-12 Category had Cricket Coaching Club Juniors, DPS Blue Warriors, DPS Red Titans, FAIPS Balaji, Latifa Lion Cubs, Pace-XI Juniors-A, Pace-XI Juniors-B, Riggae Cricket Coaching (A), Riggae Cricket Coaching (B) and Young Stars Cricket Academy.

This year we had a special guest, Dr. Hind AlBahar, who is a professional doctor, a humanitarian and a great supporter of FOCC and our mission, attend the semi-finals and finals. Our other special guests Mr. Hassan Merchant and Mr. Zahid Merchant, who are the co-sponsors of the event, also graced the occasion as Chief Guests. We are thankful for their commitment to CRYcket over the years. Dr. Hind, and the Merchant brothers presented the Trophies, medals and certificates from CRY India to the winning teams and all the participating children.

The FOCC's Souvenir was also released which included a motivating message from India's Ambassador to Kuwait, HE Shri Sunil Jain, a message from Ms. Susan Varghese, Head of CRY Global Operations and a brief on the FOCC supported project "Manav Ashrita Sansthan (MAS)" in India.

CRY India has again won two awards this year – the ICAI awards for "The Best CRS Project in Education and Self Development" and the "The Best CSR Project In Health". We are proud to be partners with CRY – in our joint mission to help the underprivileged children. Those interested in joining hands with FOCC may please visit www.focckwt.org, or contact any of the volunteers. As we say, With CRY, everybody wins.