



**MEDIA RELEASE
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Kingston, Jamaica

New Works Primary Gears Up to Defend WICB Scotiabank Kiddy Cricket Festival Champion Title

New Works Primary in Westmoreland will be defending its title of WICB Scotiabank Kiddy Cricket Festival Champion for the 2013 season of the Kiddy Cricket Festival. The team will be up against 7 other parish champions who will be competing at the finals to be held at the Kaiser Sports Club this Friday, February 22, 2013.

After playing (50) preliminary zonal matches and 6 inter-parish playoffs over a three (3) week period, officials from the Jamaica Cricket Association selected the top eight (8) Scotiabank Kiddy Cricket Primary Schools to face off in the upcoming WICB Scotiabank Kiddy Cricket Festival grand finale.

News Works Coach Mr. Ricardo Robinson said that his team has been playing well all season and that they were up to the challenge of defending their title. “All the students on the team have been training hard and are all excited about the upcoming finals. We have some of the most talents batters and bowlers and I expect to see them go out there and apply themselves. We are confident and look forward to a victory when we travel to St Ann on Friday.” explained Coach Robinson.

The other seven schools which will be competing with each other are Old Harbour Primary from St Catherine, Excelsior and Tarrant Primary from Kingston, Zion Hill Primary from St Mary, Bounty Hall Primary from Trelawney, Santa Cruz Primary from St Elizabeth and Howard Cooke Primary from St James.

The games which began on January 17, 2013 gave the 70 Scotiabank Kiddy Cricket Primary school located across the island a great opportunity to play spirited rounds of friendly cricket and showcase their best batting bowling and fielding talent. Match results have been impressive with the students demonstrating some of the most exhilarating batting and bowling performances in their under 12 age class. The matches were 20 overs and saw the teams scoring as high as 220 runs in a match. Each

team had at least four girls in an effort to ensure that females got as much exposure as possible to the games.

As the games were played across the island for the three (3) weeks, the schools proved themselves to be very serious competitors. Phillip Service, National Kiddy Cricket Coordinator explained that although the event was schedule to be 'friendly rivalry' among the schools, the participants took the event quite serious. "Their skills are improving across the board, the kids were in a competitive environment and I saw the team captains and coaches strategising a lot to get the best results. They managed their batting order, looked at where to bowl the girls and how to place fielders. The biggest challenge they currently have is underarm bowling, as the balls bounces a lot. So we will be looking at how to better prepare the girls to bowl overarm." He added that from all indication the grand finale is shaping up to be an exciting and fun filled day of cricket, music, games and activities for everyone.

The eight schools playing on the day will be vying for WICB Scotiabank Champions trophy. Other titles that are also up for grabs include the runner up school, best batter, best bowler, best fielder, parish champions, most disciplined team. All top eight schools playing at the Festival will also receive a parish trophy.

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