

Tigers roar to title

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The Flying Tigers lived up to their name by devouring Mauhan Japan Bank PSE 1-0 in the final of the Pricewaterhouse Coopers-ISF 7-a-side U13 Boys football tournament at the Olympic Stadium on Saturday.

The winning goal for the team backed by the Indochina Starfish Foundation came off the boot of fifth grader Lok Bun Chun, bringing to an end a day of exciting fare involving 25 teams,

including two from Singapore United World College, a dozen from Phnom Penh and the rest from Sihanoukville, Siem Reap, Battambang and Kandal provinces.



Members of the Flying Tigers team celebrate with the trophy at Olympic Stadium on Saturday after victory in the Pricewaterhouse Coopers-ISF U13 Boys tourney. **Photo Supplied**

Fierce competition marked the first phase of the event played on quarter of a regular pitch over 20 minutes. Two teams from Kandal made it to the semifinals alongside Flying Tigers and Mauhan Japan Bank PSE, but both the provincial sides ended up on the losing side.

Flying Tigers prevailed over Seasiders in a tense penalty shootout while Komar Takhmao lost to a last gasp PSE goal.

Flying Tigers goalkeeper Tach Polith, who came up with some splendid performances during the day, was named the most valuable player of the tournament.

Action now shifts to the Old Stadium this coming Saturday when girls take centre stage for the Barclays-ISF 7-a-side U14 Girls event. A round robin tournament for youths with hearing disabilities involving five boys teams and four girls teams will also be held the same day.

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CAMBODIAN ATHLETES TO PREPARE FOR OLYMPIC GAMES 2012 IN LONDON

BY SOK LAK

To mark the start of a 500 days countdown, the National Olympic Committee of Cambodia (NOCC) and British Embassy joined together with the Indochina Starfish Foundation to celebrate the event and coincide with the fourth PricewaterhouseCoopers / Indochina Starfish Foundation (ISF) U13 Boys Football Tournament at the National Stadium in Phnom Penh on 19 March.

H.E. Andrew Mace, British Ambassador to the Kingdom of Cambodia, said that Olympic Games in London 2012 aims to reach young people all over the world, connecting to the inspirational power of the games, and encourage their participation in sports. "ISF U13 Boys Football Tournament and London 2012 share the same vision, which is to inspire more young people to get involved in sports," he added.

He continued to say that Indochina Starfish Foundation (ISF)'s program supporting football in communities across Cambodia provides the same inspiration to disadvantaged children through building team spirit, teaching valuable life skills and having fun.

Mr. Peter Slater, Chairman of In-



Photo supplied

Children cheer and prepare for competition for boys football tournament

dochima Starfish Foundation (ISF), said that the event reflects the commitment of the ISF to youth football in Cambodia and to the children who are benefiting from its football-coaching program.

He added that the tournament is measured not only by watching the amazing sporting prowess, courage,

and commitment of the children in the participating teams but also by the sound of the laughing and cheering children at the stadium as they watch this wonderful spectacle.

Mr. Yath Chamroeun, Secretary General of the National Olympic Committee of Cambodia, said that the point of ISF U13 Boys Football

Tournament and 500 days toward Olympic Games 2012 is to inspire all boys and girls to play football as well as Olympic sports.

"They still have a future on Olympic Games stage and tournaments on Olympic sports to go," he said. "In the event, the young footballers joined by spectators to complete 500 laps of the National Stadium, and released 500 balloons to symbolize the countdown to the Olympics Games in London."

To celebrate and promote more young people to join Olympic Games in London, the British Embassy will organize another big event after this event on 18 June 2011. That day is also the birthday of Olympic Games. There will be a big event of a marathon on that day in order to provide knowledge related to Olympic Games to Cambodia as well as to spread to the world the idea of preparation for Olympic Games in London.

In the Olympic Games 2012, there will be 15,000 athletes and 10,000 officials are expected in London, while an estimated four billion people will be watching from around the world. (SEAH)