

London Youth Games Final Table 2010

1st: (+2)	Bromley	1124pts
2nd: (+7)	Croydon	1118pts
3rd: (-2)	Havering	1105pts
4th: (---)	Richmond	1098pts
5th: (-3)	Redbridge	1093pts
6th: (+5)	Bexley	1078pts
7th: (-2)	Wandsworth	1075pts
8th: (-2)	Enfield	1070pts
9th: (-2)	Hillingdon	999pts
10th: (---)	Greenwich	981pts
11th: (+5)	Ealing	962pts
12th: (+8)	Lambeth	955pts
13th: (-1)	Kingston	945pts
14th: (+1)	Waltham F	942pts
15th: (-7)	Sutton	935pts
16th: (+5)	Camden	928pts
17th: (+5)	TOWERHAMLETS	911pts
18th: (-4)	Barnet	905pts
19th: (+10)	Southwark	903pts
20th: (-2)	Haringey	896pts
21st: (+10)	Hounslow	884pts
22nd: (---)	Barking & Dag	859pts
23rd: (+2)	Hackney	839pts
24th: (+2)	Harrow	828pts
25th: (-8)	Kensington & C	823pts
25th: (-12)	Lewisham	823pts
27th: (-3)	NEWHAM	806pts
28th: (-9)	Brent	805pts
29th: (+3)	Westminster	770pts
30th: (-1)	Hammersmith & F	760pts
31st: (-4)	Islington	740pts
32nd: (+1)	City of London	525pts
33rd: (-5)	Merton	513pts

No stopping Igor in West Ham Park run



MOLDOVAN Igor Cojuneanu continued his winning streak by winning the men's 5k in the second leg of the City of London West Ham Park Summer Series.

And Cojuneanu emphasised his fine form as he set a new course record of 17 minutes 12.21 seconds to topple the previous best of Harun Abdiby by nearly 40 seconds.

John Charles of Belgrave Harriers gave a tough fight to Cojuneanu in the last 50m, but had to settle for second in 17min 13.44sec. Muhammad Tariq finished third in 20min 5.30sec.

In the women's 5k run, Ilona Bagi of Serpentine Running Club comfortably won in 22min 43.90sec while Annika Norton and Samema Begam finished in second and third respectively.

John O'Shea of Highgate Harriers won the men's 40+ category with 18min 46.55sec. David Watkinson (22:53.24) and Alvin White (24:19.93) were also in the frame.

Inga Hayden-Cooper of Dagenham 88 Runners won her second consecutive run with 23min 40.03sec in the women 35+ category.

Sharon Springfield clocked 24min 27.62sec to finish second, while Amanda Widdowson took 27min 34.29sec to finish third.

Tessa Sanderson Foundations City of London West Ham Park 5k Run Summer Series consist of seven Sunday runs and the runner with highest points will be awarded with Championship in each category.

It's supported by the Newham Recorder and City of London Corporation.

There is still plenty of time for you to get involved and give it a go.

The next run will be held on Sunday at 10:30am at West Ham Park. For online entries visit: www.newhamclassic10k.com

Newham slump to a new low



YOUTH GAMES SPECIAL By ROB HENDRY

NEWHAM continued their recent slide down the London Youth Games table as they dropped three places from last year's position of 24th, a far cry from their 2008 placing of 19th.

Just two years before the Olympics come to the borough, the under-achieving team finished a disappointing 61 points behind last year's total of 867, and light years behind eventual winners Bromley on 1124.

The largest annual youth sports event in Europe came to a close this weekend, after a showpiece final two days of action at Crystal Palace and saw the borough add volleyball bronze to their solitary mixed fencing win last month.

Newham shared the third-place finish with Havering after losing out 20-25, 19-25 to Kingston in the semi-finals on Saturday.

That came two weeks after the fabulous mixed fencing win, which saw Newham edge out Enfield and Lambeth to win the competition outright.

The win will be doubly satisfying, as last year the side had to share the spoils, when Enfield and Barnet completed a three-way joint top finish.

Sadly, this year's gold was the highlight of Newham's 2010 campaign, but there

were plenty of other success stories, as four other 11-18 year-old teams claimed top-10 finishes over the two month event.

The Boccia team finished behind Croydon and Tower Hamlets to claim third place in the Paralympic sport of ball-tossing.

In the meantime, the borough's male basketball team lost out to withdrawn Barking & Dagenham's replacements Croydon 38-29 in the semi-finals, claiming a joint bronze with Lambeth.

The female table-tennis side claimed ninth place behind eventual winners Tower Hamlets, while the male team went two better with a joint seventh placed finish with Kensington & Chelsea.

The star was present at last Thursday's Mini Youth Games, along with Mayor of London Boris Johnson, as they lit the flame to declare the Games officially open, before Ohuruogu was on hand to present the final batch of medals.

The 25-year-old is the UK's most successful athlete of recent years, having won gold at the 2007 World Championships and 2006 Commonwealth Games to go alongside her famous vic-



IN THE MEDALS: Newham's boccia team, who all hailed from Eastlea School, won bronze, while (below) the fencers struck gold.

tory in Beijing in 2008.

As a youngster, she cut her competitive teeth at the London Youth Games, representing her borough of Newham in netball and athletics.

Ohuruogu said: "When I was young, the games were always one of the highlights of the year. It was always very competitive, but also lots of fun too. There was always a great spirit among your teammates and healthy rivalry between each of the boroughs."

"It was a really rewarding experience in my early days in sport and I know it continues to be a massively popular event right across the city."

MEANWHILE, Tower Hamlets climbed five places to 17th in the tournament, capping a superb transformation from last year's effort.

The borough ruled the waves at the Thames Water Regatta as they comfortably took the team sailing title back in early June.



Victory came courtesy of a stunning display at Docklands, taking the top spot in the boys and girls optimist events.

Second in the Feva mixed race underlined their superiority and team leader Matt Rickard insisted the squad's hard work had finally paid off after a near miss in 2009.

"I couldn't be prouder of the team," he said. "They've

worked really hard here and they got their reward in the end. The day was fantastic and, obviously, to finish first is a real bonus for us. We came second last year so we were hoping to go one better.

For the second year in a row, table tennis was the other golden sport for the Hamlets team, with the girls triumphing for a crucial 50 points.

Brilliant Bopara fires untimely reminder

ESSEX star Ravi Bopara put West Indies A to the sword with a spectacular performance with both bat and ball, but his timing left a little bit to be desired as the display came a day after the England selectors had met.

Bopara, who attended Brampton Manor School, has not played for the England one-day side since last Autumn's Champions Trophy, but playing for the England Lions at New Road on Sunday he fired an untimely reminder to the selectors who had ignored him.

While the likes of Jonathan Trott and Ian Bell failed with the bat, and Ajmal Shahzad and James Tredwell were wicketless, Bopara stepped out of the shadows to show his true international credentials.

He came in at 14-3 and promptly clattered a magnificent 140-ball 168 with an innings of increasing aggression.

He was not without some good fortune how-

ESSEX CCC

ever. West Indian captain Devon Smith dropped the Essex man twice off the bowling of leg-spinner Anthony Martin and Bopara took full advantage, reaching his century in fine style and needing only another 25 balls to turn it into 150 as England reached a mammoth 345 from their 50 overs.

The Newham-born cricketer wasn't finished there though. He then picked up the ball and rattled through the West Indian middle-order, claiming 4-43 as the tourists were dismissed for just 221.

The victory puts England into the final where they will probably play the West Indians again.

MEANWHILE, wicketkeeper James Foster has been appointed captain of Essex in all forms of the game following the resignation of Mark Pettini.

The 30-year-old former England man (pictured



above) had taken charge of the county's Twenty20 campaign last month and his success at that form of the game has prompted this latest move.

Pettini explained that his decision will enable him to concentrate on his batting for the rest of the season.

"We suffered a poor start to the T20 campaign and I wanted to be able to

focus on my own game," he said. "I got to the point that I was exhausted and under pressure with my batting."

"The role is obviously very stressful and creates a lot of hard work, both on and off the pitch. Now I can focus on scoring runs across all formats of the game."

He continued: "It was an extremely tough decision to make. I have really enjoyed the last three years and the success we have enjoyed as a team."

Foster had mixed feelings about taking on the role as captain in all formats: "It is obviously sad news that Mark has decided to stand down as captain. He took over from Ronnie Irani three years ago and has done an incredible job."

"I was asked whether I would like to accept the role as captain and I am delighted and thrilled to be considered for such a pivotal position in the club."



TON-DERFUL: Ravi Bopara was in imperious form for the England Lions, but his innings came too late for a call-up to the full England one-day squad.