

Gretna 2008 win Walking Football Scottish Cup



Gretna 2008 won the Walking Football Scottish Cup at Glasgow Green on Saturday.

A record 56 teams took part in the event which is thought to be the largest of its kind in the UK.

The tournament was opened by Aileen Campbell, Minister of Public Health and Sport, who then took part in the non-competitive Festival and Baillie Russell Robertson of Glasgow City Council.

The event which was organised by Walking Football Scotland had the backing of the Scottish Football Partnership Trust and Paths for All charity and Ian Maxwell Chief Executive of the Scottish FA also lent his support to the event.

The Salvation Army provided free water and fruit and Prostate Cancer UK had a stall with staff on hand to provide advice and support.

League Champions Hearts 56 had a disappointing day, failing to qualify from the group stages whilst Hearts 98 won Group F but were eliminated in the knockout rounds.

Last year's winners Midlothian who were without inspirational 86-year-old goalkeeper Peter Collins, made the last 16 before going out of the competition.

Edinburgh City took part in the non competitive Festival as did a number of former players including Robbie Neilson, Derek Ferguson, Lee McCulloch and Gemma Fay.

The final was contested between last year's runners Gretna 2008 and Ayr United. After an enthralling 2-2 draw, the Lowland League side won on penalties..

Walking Football Scotland Chairman Gary McLaughlin said: "We are absolutely delighted with the Event today. We had over 600 people on Glasgow Green, engaged and active through walking football. Everything was so good, weather was fantastic, the competition although keen was played in an exceptionally sporting temperament and the non-competitive Festival was walking football at its best. The challenge will be trying to better it next year."