

On the Street

StreetGames gets the North East jumping

Young people and volunteers jump for joy in the North East



On August 23rd over 500 young StreetGamers from across the North East took part in the regional event in Middlesbrough.

On the hottest day of the year so far teams from across the region competed in basketball, dance, football, as well as having

a go at ultimate frisbee, tag rugby or trying the climbing wall and skate park.

Building from this event StreetGames will be working with partners to forge long-term links with community groups to encourage participation in sport over a number of years. Martin Jenkins, Senior Strategic Development Manager for Tees Valley Sport, said:

'We have recently appointed a StreetGames Coordinator who will allow us to focus on the longer-term delivery of StreetGames projects in the heart of the local community. We plan to work closely with partners including, youth workers, the police and neighbourhood wardens to provide young people with exciting and innovative opportunities to take part in sport and active recreation.'

A big thank you to Tees Valley Sport who organised a fantastic event with StreetGames – especially for the weather! For more information check out the regional pages on the StreetGames website

The StreetGames website has recently been relaunched, you can find all sorts of information about what we're upto across the country and register for regular updates at www.streetgames.org or you can call on 020 7261 1430



The co-operative



Football Foundation
football's biggest supporter



StreetGames rocks Manchester

1000 youngsters from deprived communities all over the North West descended on SportCity Manchester at the end of August to take part in the StreetGames sporting challenge.

Watched by hundreds of spectators, the youngsters, from 13 different inner city areas, made the most of the professional coaching available in athletics, rugby, football, handball, netball, basketball and cricket. Others preferred to try out slightly different activities like cheerleading, graffiti art and performance dance. Also joining the youngsters on the day were some 60 young people from Newham, the home to London's Olympic Park, who came to see first hand what legacy benefits major sporting events can bring to a city. John Dwan at Sport 4 Life and North West StreetGames Regional Manager said:

'StreetGames is all about introducing sport to young people and encouraging them to make sport a regular part of their lives. Not only did this event offer coaching from sports specialists and professionals but it also gave



Young StreetGamers taking on the hurdles



Tim Jonks, St Helen's Rugby Club; Peter Monks, CEO The Co-op and young StreetGamers.

participants the chance to compete in one of the best facilities in the country.'

The day also marked the launch of a partnership between StreetGames and the Co-operative Group to deliver a new Volunteer Programme aimed at giving young people the chance to gain sports coaching qualifications. With the Co-operative Group investing £170,000 to develop the training programme, more than 600 young people, aged 16 to 25, are set to benefit from the scheme which will also build self-esteem, develop leadership skills and help the young people involved to change their local communities. Minister for Sport, Gerry Sutcliffe, said:

'StreetGames is a fantastic programme that offers young people from disadvantaged areas the chance to do more sport – such as football, athletics and basketball – and lead a more active lifestyle. The health benefits are obvious but StreetGames does more than that. It also builds stronger communities and helps young people fulfil their potential through volunteering and coaching opportunities.'