

Junior Women's Nationals 2023 – Ultimate Frisbee



This year our school was able to take two teams in the same division for the first time ever, with twelve of our fourteen players coming from Upper 4, and another player from Lower 4. Despite the age of the squad, we were competing in the U17s category, against girls up to Upper 5. It was great to see the girls so eager to learn from the experience ready to compete when they reach the top end of the age bracket.

Nevertheless, the girls played extremely competitively. In their first game, the A team took an early lead, with our handlers, Keira and Eloise, controlling the play. Had this been later in the tournament, it would have been an easy win for Gateways. As it was, following a very long, hard-fought point at 3:3, we suffered a narrow defeat. This was a real shame, as our team proved competitive in all their games, giving the top seeds (and eventual winners) their hardest pool game. In actual fact, we beat the team that came second in the pool and would have finished second ourselves were it not for our slip up in the first game.

The A team won two of their five games on the day, and were beginning to look threatening on offence, whilst tight on defence. This is certainly going to make us a serious challenger for the competition in the next two years. I was impressed with the more fluid movement we achieved with cuts from Amelia and Isobel and goals from aggressive sprints from Sadie, Caitlyn and Ella. A special congratulations to Amelia for captaining the team.

MVP: Keira

MIP: Isobel

High School & Sixth Form



GATEWAYS
SCHOOL

The B team may not have managed a win at this tournament, but as the youngest team in the entire division, there was a lot to celebrate. A number of girls have now positioned themselves to advance onto the A team next year. I was very impressed with Holly's undercuts and confidence to start throwing overhead throws. Ruby was brilliant in her distribution of the disc, Lily had the best forearm, Anya and Aimee were our best cutters into space, Sophie made the best catch of the whole tournament, and Daisy was the toughest defensive player to shake. I really hope they will get a chance to shine next year.

MVP: Ruby

MIP: Aimee

Overall Top Scorer: Sadie



Finally, I'd like to congratulate three of our senior girls, Coro, Eleanor and Chloe, who played for Leeds Women's Team in the U20s division. They finished third and all three looked in great form. I'm sure they will have a great season of play in the year to come.

Mr Joshua Crosby