

Despite Hawick having a Premiership fixture at Mansfield Park, there was an excellent turnout at Volunteer Park to watch the next generation battle it out for a place in the Murrayfield final. From first whistle to No Side, the spectators were well entertained by two evenly matched sides. West were first on the scoreboard with a try from hooker Emin Thaqi, stand off Lewis Howick adding the conversion. Right wing Finlay Douglas' try and stand off Owain Gray's successful kick brought Hawick level before centre Kerr Yule got his side's second try of the game to give West a 12-7 lead at half-time.

Blindside Yousuf Shaheen extended West's lead to 17-7 after the interval. Despite the ten points lead, the victory was far from won. Hawick openside Marcus Brogan narrowed the gap to five points before Douglas got his second try to draw the sides level at 17-17 with a not too difficult conversion to follow. It looked as if Hawick would be heading to the final. The drama was not over. Charlie Greaves was one of three West players in front of the others with the centre being the one who charged down the attempted conversion. The match remained all square and that is how it finished. No extra time is allowed at this age group so the victors would be the side that had scored the most tries. That was three tries all. The sides had one successful conversion each. Neither side had received a red card so the place in the final would go to the side that had received the fewest yellow cards. Only one such card had been issued, that to a Hawick player for persistent team infringements. Victory was West's and the celebrations began. West will face Boroughmuir at Murrayfield on Sunday, 27 March, the kick-off time to be confirmed. It had been a fine game, played in awful conditions.