

# Light SS flip the script in biggest cricket week yet



**Shadow Breakers.** Light SS completed an unbeaten run to upset fancied rivals Olila HS and win their second Sky View Girls Schools Cricket Week title in Gulu City on May 9. PHOTO /INNOCENT NDAWULA

**T**he trophy never left Soroti. Only the script changed. For much of the week in Gulu City, the expectation centred on Olila High School — the four-time champions, established powerhouse and long-standing face of the Soroti Cricket Academy (SCA) system.

They arrived for the 22nd edition solid, experienced and the fancied one of the two with a galaxy of stars.

But by Saturday evening, another SCA hub school had stolen the story.

Light Secondary School, often discussed behind Olila in conversations around girls' schools cricket dominance, completed a flawless unbeaten campaign with a composed five-wicket victory in the final to win their second Sky View Girls Schools Cricket Week title.

And in doing so, they may have signalled a changing order within Uganda's most productive girls' cricket pipeline.

## Soroti pipeline

The final itself became a reflection of how influential the SCA structure has become within Uganda's girls cricket ecosystem. Both finalists - Olila HS and Light SS - are SCA hub schools and both progressed through the tournament unbeaten.

But while Olila carried history and expectation, Light SS increasingly looked like the more balanced side.

Their bowling unit proved tighter. Their fielding calmer. Their temperament steadier.

After electing to bat at Gulu High School Ground, Olila struggled to build

momentum against a disciplined Light SS attack. Captain and Best Batter Malisa Ariokot top-scored with 22 while Joan Ilora added 11, but the innings never truly escaped pressure.

Best Bowler Ritah Alio (20 wickets) and Teddy Anyait each collected three wickets as Olila were restricted to 62 runs for 8 in 20 overs.

That total always appeared vulnerable against a Light SS side that had quietly built momentum throughout the week. Susan Akidi scored 14 while Ruth Kulume anchored the chase with an unbeaten 15 before Ruth Akello (8\*) sealed victory in 18.2 overs.

Ironically, Olila's Divine Gabriella Nyamer still produced the match's finest individual spell — one for seven in four overs — to claim Player of the Match honours despite defeat.