

LEINSTER SQUASH ANNUAL REPORT 2003/2004

AFFILIATION, LEAGUE/CUP WINNERS & RUNNERS-UP

Number of Clubs affiliated to Leinster Squash 24

Number of Men's Teams – 60

Number of Ladies Teams - 22

LEAGUE COMPETITION

Statistics were down this year from last. We lost three Clubs, DCU, UCD Staff and UCD Students. Strangely enough all are college related Clubs. It is always very disappointing to lose a Club especially when there should be such potential for new players in the Colleges but hopefully we will see them return again next year.

League Sponsorship was a major priority this season and we were very grateful to all companies who kindly showed their support by sponsoring an individual Division. We did not succeed in finding a sponsor for all Divisions but hopefully the response from our current sponsors and the coverage they received may entice new companies to advertise with Leinster Squash next season.

As the League Entry Forms came in we noticed that some Division were very small where as others had a good number to fulfil a fixture and make for an interesting season. Mens Divisions FOUR, FIVE and SIX were substantially full and with 10 teams, 12 teams and 10 teams respectively. Unfortunately Div 6 suffered a few losses when Trinity, DCU and UCD failed to produce their teams and at the half way mark Arklow pulled out a team due to lack of players. However these divisions played out a very exciting year of squash.

The Ladies Premier teams were concerned that if they only had 6 entries that their season would be very short so we asked them if they would be interested in playing each other three times, at home, away and on a drawn basis. They ended up with 7 entries and decided to go with the suggestion of playing three times. This prolonged their season and made it more interesting for them. We used this draw for Mens Division 2, as they only had five teams and Ladies Division 1 also.

LEINSTER SQUASH LEAGUE FINAL POSITIONS AT END OF SEASON 2004

MENS PREMIER Sponsored by **Cfs Cooke Financial Services**

WINNERS: FITZWILLIAM A 198, **RUNNERS-UP:** WESTWOOD 187, Old Belvedere 136, Trinity 135, Sutton 128, Fitzwilliam B 125, Carlow 98, Mt Pleasant 58

LADIES PREMIER Sponsored by **SARTORIUS**

WINNERS: FITZWILLIAM 247, **RUNNERS-UP:** WESTWOOD 218, Sutton 207, Old Belvedere 189, Mt Pleasant 167, Aer Lingus 86, Total Fitness MH 42

MENS DIVISION 1 Sponsored by **STYL-OPTIK**

WINNERS: SUTTON 213, **RUNNERS-UP:** LEINSTER 195, Fitzwilliam 191, Westwood 154, Old Belvedere 153, Spheres 146, Mt Pleasant 131, Trinity 130, Aer Lingus 120

LADIES DIVISION 1

WINNERS: WESTWOOD 216, **RUNNERS-UP:** MT PLEASANT 202, Leinster 135, Sandycove 133, Trinity 85, Aer Lingus 41

MENS DIVISION 2 Sponsored by **Sheeran Insurance**

WINNERS: SUTTON 133, **RUNNERS-UP:** TOTAL FITNESS 132, Spheres 130, Aer Lingus 127, Baldonnel 105

LADIES DIVISION 2

WINNERS: FITZWILLIAM 207, **RUNNERS-UP:** WESTWOOD 187, Mt Pleasant 177, Sutton 155, Total Fitness Malahide 151, BLCO 143, Leinster 135, ESB Spotsco 127, Old Belvedere 59

MENS DIVISION 3 Sponsored by **TASTY OPTIONS**

WINNERS: FITZWILLIAM 244, **RUNNERS-UP:** CURRAGH 232, Mt Pleasant 202, Arklow 186, Spheres 159, Trinity 158, Leinster 152, Riverview 146, Westwood 144, Aer Lingus 142

MENS DIVISION 4 Sponsored by **FEXCO**

WINNERS: SUTTON 243, **RUNNERS-UP:** MT PLEASANT 242, Sandycove 235, Fitzwilliam 225, Portmarnock 197, Baldonnel 148, Old Belvedere 147, Westwood 131, Spheres 124, Total Fitness Castleknock 68

MENS DIVISION 5

WINNERS: FITZWILLIAM 281, **RUNNERS-UP:** JOE MAY 268, Mt Pleasant 244, Naas 230, Leinster 229, ESB Sportsco 227, Total Fitness Castleknock 216, Trinity 202, RTE 178, Baldonnel 171, Old Belvedere 160, Arklow 153)

MENS DIV 6

WINNERS: MT PLEASANT 133, **RUNNERS-UP:** SPHERES 120, Old Belvedere 101, Total Fitness 91, Fitzwilliam 55, Guinness 42)

CUP COMPETITION

The Cup competition began almost immediately after the end of the League season. We have been using this system recently as opposed to running the competition throughout the season in between league matches. It seems to be working very well and led to another successful event.

The Cup Finals took place in Mt Pleasant Squash Club on Saturday 8th May this year and was run very successfully by Marian Bermingham, Maria Blair, Gerry Delaney and Gerry Callanan. Thanks to them and all involved. Special thanks to the referees, Maria Blair, Eddie Redmond, Brian Williams, Brian McNally and Brian Mahon who have no hesitation in helping out time and time again. Results as follows:

IVY HADDEN TROPHY **WINNERS: FITZWILLIAM**
A RUNNERS-UP: SUTTON A

LADIES DIVISION 1 & 2 **WINNERS: WESTWOOD**
B RUNNERS-UP: FITZWILLIAM B

MENS CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS **WINNERS: FITZWILLIAM**
A RUNNERS-UP: WESTWOOD A

GRAY CUP – MENS DIVISION 1 & 2 **WINNERS: LEINSTER**
A RUNNERS-UP: SUTTON B

MENS DIVISION 3 & 4 **WINNERS: CURRAGH**
A RUNNERS-UP: SANDYCOVE A

MENS DIVISION 5 & 6 **WINNERS: FITZWILLIAM**
F RUNNERS-UP: TOTAL FITNESS C

REFEREEING & MARKING

A Refereeing Course was held during the season and the exam was held in Mt Pleasant Squash Club on the 8th May 2004. We are delighted to welcome Stephen O'Connor as our newest Referee and hopefully we will see him (gaining lots of experience) at our tournaments in the Future. We will be holding another course next year and we urge all Clubs to advertise and encourage their players to take part. Everybody is welcome to participate.

Leinster Squash would like to thank all our current Referees for coming to our aid wherever and whenever. Thanks to Brian Williams and Marian Birmingham for running the Course and arranging the referees for our tournaments.

PUBLICITY / MEDIA COVERAGE

All results are now available in the Irish Times Newspaper thanks to Malachy Logan and The Irish Independent thanks to Pat Courtney and his crew. We have even managed to get the Sponsors names into the papers. During the second half of the season we successfully got Aertel on board. They were committed to the Rugby World Cup early on and promised us a place when it finished. They kept their word and thanks to Shane Murray and James Boylan of RTE the results, again along with Sponsors names, are updated daily on Networks 2, page 507. This publicity has caused a buzz and we have had great feedback from all teams, so much so that they submit their results first thing in the morning and I have to chase very few results to make the newspaper's deadline. Thanks everyone for that.

Next Season we will change the rules in relation to the Cup Results being sent to the Administrator. We feel that in order to continue to keep the media coverage we should have the results entered as with the Leinster Leagues, the following day before 11.00 a.m. This would also allow the teams to follow progress and have immediate access to their next opponents.

SPONSORSHIP

As you will have seen from the Website, Newspapers and Aertel, along with fixtures posted in your Clubs during the season, we managed to get very valued Sponsorship for six of our Leinster League Divisions.

Our thanks go to:

Greg Cooke, CFS Cooke Financial Services, Division	Sponsors of the Mens Premier
Arthur Moore, Styl-Optik,	Sponsors of Mens Division 1
Alan Sheeran, Sheeran Insurance Brokers,	Sponsors of Mens Division 2
Tom McKeown, Tasty Options,	Sponsors of Mens Division 3
Shane McElroy, FEXCO Group Marking,	Sponsors of Mens Division 4
Ann Mc Clure, Sartorius,	Sponsors of Ladies Premier Division

If you are interested in joining the team of Sponsors or know someone who may be willing to help, please contact Leinster Squash (lsquash@gofree.indigo.ie / 8396299 or any member of the Council. If you would prefer to just make a donation and remain anonymous we would be more than willing to comply with your request.

SENIOR CAPTAINS & SELECTORS

Dara O'Flynn, agreed to take on, again this season, the task of being Mens Captain and a selector for Leinster Squash. This entails the Mens Captain compiling all the Mens Premier results on a weekly basis along with Ranking Tournament results for the purpose of keeping Leinster supplied with a constantly up to date Ranking List and selecting teams for forthcoming events. Unfortunately Dara had to leave us as his work has taken him out of the country. We wish to thank Dara for his years with us and should he ever return he would be welcome.

Gerry Callanan and Chris Collins joined Dara this season as selectors. Gerry and Chris took over the task from Dara and along with Jim Flynn who is now on board, they have continued to up date the rankings. They have also organised the Interprovincials. Gerry Callanan has agreed to become Mens Captain and we hope all three will stay with us.

Michaela Harty joined the forces as Ladies Captain this season as Sinead Aiken, our former Captain went trekking over hills afar. Michaela, together with Len Redmond and Rosie Barry have taken on their task and completed their first year with us. It is important to have selectors who have their finger on the button so to speak and know what is going on at the heart of squash at this level. We thank Michaela, Len and Rosie for their dedication and would be grateful if they could remain at the helm for the coming season.

OPEN CLUB TOURNAMENTS HELD IN LEINSTER

The Club Open Tournaments are a crucial aspect of Squash and we would like to thank the organisers and players of The Mt Pleasant Open, The Old Belvedere Handicap Open and The Aer Lingus Open. We would also like to thank Fitzwilliam Lawn Tennis Club and their Squash Committee who brought some of the best ladies Squash players to our shores to play in the WISPA IRISH NIVEA OPEN.

Mt Pleasant Open

The Mt Pleasant Open, which is an Annual Event was held on 30th January 2004 - 1st February 2004 in both Mt Pleasant Squash Club and Leinster Cricket & Squash Club. Marian Bermingham was Tournament Director assisted by Gerry Delaney, Tom Sexton, Eugene O'Sullivan and Maria Blair. We had a small anonymous sponsor, who came through one of our members, but the person didn't want to be named. It is always good to get sponsorship in any shape or form so we are very grateful for this assistance.

Tournament Results as Follows:

MENS A	Angus Kirkland	beat	Neal Murphy
LADIES A	Katie Wilson	beat	Len Redmond
MENS B	Karlis Zauers	beat	Evan Walsh
MENS B PLATE	Remas Kiss	beat	Donal Murphy
MENS C	Stephen O'Connor	beat	Gerry Hand
MENS C PLATE	Henry Gillanders	beat	Benny O'Brien

THE LEINSTER SENIOR CLOSED

For some years now Eoin Ryan and Sutton Lawn Tennis Club have taken over the running of the Leinster Senior Closed Tournaments on behalf of Leinster Squash. This is one of our most important events and once again Eoin with the help of the committee did a superb job.

This event saw the biggest entry for some years with 138 players competing in Mens A,B,C &D and Ladies A, B & C. The competition was run over a week to allow for all matches to be played and give players more flexibility with match times. Unfortunately the Mt Pleasant Open was hosted the weekend previous to this event and confused lots of entrants who thought that it was one and the same, so the date for these tournaments will have to be looked at for next season.

The results are as follows:

MENS A:	John Abrahamse (Spheres)	bt	Nigel Peyton (Fitzwilliam)
MENS B:	John Fitzsimons(Westwood Belvedere)	bt	Damien O'Reilly (Old Belvedere)
MENS C:	Dan Hayes (RTE)	bt	Martin Maher (Sutton LTC)

MENS D: Brian Parker (Carlow) bt Kevin McCormack (Leinster CC)
LADIES A: Emma Toolan (Sutton) bt Jennifer Dillon (Westwood)
LADIES B: Sarah Cornish (Westwood) bt Patricia O'Carroll (Mt Pleasant)
LADIES C: Lorraine Keeley (BLCO) bt Mary Lennon (BLCO)

THE LEINSTER SENIOR OPEN

The results are as follows:

MENS A: John Abrahamse (Spheres) bt Graeme Stewart (Belfast)
MENS B: Ross Lillis (Galway LTC) bt Kevin Moore (Fitzwilliam LTC)
MENS C: Roland Budd (Trinity) bt Ferghal Field (Sutton LTC)
MENS D: Dominick Tighe (Portmarnock) bt Darren Meade (Spheres)
LADIES A: Madeline Perry (Ulster) bt Aisling Blake (Fitzwilliam LTC)
LADIES B: Claire Bergin (Mt Pleasant) bt Emer O'Brien (Total Fitness)
LADIES C: Lorraine Keeley (BLCO) bt Mary Lennon (BLCO)

LEINSTER SCHOOLS SQUASH COMPETITIONS

LEINSTER SCHOOLS SQUASH RESULTS

BOYS	LEAGUE	SHIELD	LEAGUE CUP	CUP	PLATE
U/19 Div 1	Blackrock A St Fintans A	St Fintans A Blackrock C	Blackrock A Blackrock B	Blackrock St Fintans	Blackrock B Blackrock C
U/19 Div 2	Blackrock B Blackrock C				
U/17 Div 1	CBS Carlow Blackrock A	Blackrock B St Fintans A	CBS Carlow Blackrock A	CBS Carlow Blackrock A	Blackrock C Blackrock D
U/17 Div 2	Blackrock B St Fintans B	Blackrock D Blackrock E			
U/17 Div 3	Blackrock C Blackrock D				
U/15 Div 1	Blackrock A CBS Carlow	Blackrock B St Fintans A	CBS Carlow Blackrock A	CBS Carlow Blackrock A	Blackrock C Blackrock D
U/15 Div 2	Blackrock B Gonzaga	Blackrock C St Fintans B			
U/15 Div 3	Blackrock C St Conleths	Blackrock D Gonzaga			
U/15 Div 4	Blackrock G Blackrock H	Blackrock E Blackrock F			
U/13 Div 1	Gael Colaiste Blackrock A	Blackrock B Blackrock C	Gael Colaiste Blackrock A	Gael Colaiste Blackrock A	Blackrock B St Michaels
U/13 Div 2	Blackrock B St Michaels				

GIRLS	LEAGUE	SHIELD	LEAGUE CUP	CUP	PLATE
U/17 Div 1	Gael Colaiste Muckross A	Caritas A Muckross B		Gael Colaiste Muckross	Caritas B Muckross B
U/15 Div 1	Gael Colaiste Caritas A	Muckross A Our Ladys	Gael Colaiste Caritas A	Gael Colaiste Our Ladys	Caritas B Muckross B
U/15 Div 2	Caritas B Our Ladys				
U/13 Div 1	Santa Sabina Gael Colaiste	Santa Sabina Caritas A	Gael Colaiste Santa Sabina A	Gael Colaiste Santa Sabina	Santa Sabina Caritas B

Best Overall Boys School:	Blackrock College
Best Overall Girls School:	Gael Colaiste
Best Individual Girl U/13:	Sorcha Ni Murchu (Gael Colaiste)
Best Individual Boy U/13:	Frank Kelly (Blackrock College)
Best Individual Girl U/15:	Catriona Mi Murchu (Gael Colaiste)
Best Individual Boy U/15:	Brian Parker (CBS Carlow)
Best Individual Girl U/17:	Niamh Ni Bhraonain (Gael Colaiste)
Best Individual Boy U/17:	Adam Hennessy(CBS Carlow)
Best Individual Boy U/19:	Jack Doyle (Blackrock College)

DUBLIN VETERANS 2003/2004 SEASON

LEAGUES:

We had one less teams this year – Mt Pleasant dropped from 3 to 2 teams.

The teams per division were:

- Division 1** – 6 Teams
- Division 2** – 6 Teams
- Division 3** – 8 Teams

Teams played each other 3 times during the season on a ‘home’, ‘away’, and a ‘drawn’ venue basis. The results were as follows:

DIV	PTS	WINNER	PTS	RUNNER-UP
1	194	Aer Lingus A	179	Spheres/Curragh
2	209	Aer Lingus B	167	Mt. Pleasant A
3	252	Old Belvedere C	239	Sandycove

CUP COMPETITION:

The Cup matches for each Division were played in March/April with the Finals in RTE/Old Belvedere on Thurs 15th April.

The Cup results were as follows:

DIV	WINNER	RUNNER-UP
1	Spheres/Curragh	Leinster A
2	Aer Lingus B	Mt Pleasant A
3	Coombe	Old Belvedere C

SPONSORSHIP:

The Veterans section is indebted to two generous players from RTE for the sponsorship of the Leagues and Cup matches and to Guinness Ireland for their sponsorship of the finals night in R. T. E.

COMPETITIONS:

Leinster Veterans Open – was sponsored by *Mantwood Investments and O'Connor Property Group* and held in Fitzwilliam on 7th to 9th November 2003.

Results were as follows:

Leinster Veteran Open Results		
SECTION	WINNER	RUNNER UP
MENS OVER 45	Jack Allen	Seamus Hickey
MENS OVER 50	Derry Mc Carthy	Terry Norman
MENS OVER 55	Stanley Campbell	Brendan Barry
MENS OVER 60	Mossie Collins	Gerry Byrne
LADIES OVER 40	Ann Sheppard	Len Redmond
LADIES OVER 45	Feena Murray	Jean Sutton

Irish Veterans Open – was sponsored by *Fitzwilliam* and held in Fitzwilliam from 27th to 29th Feb 2004.

Results were as follows

Irish Veterans Open Results		
SECTION	WINNER	RUNNER UP
MENS OVER 45	Ian Bradburn	David Gotto
MENS OVER 50	Geoff Irwin	Terry Norman
MENS OVER 55	Stanley Campbell	Brendan Barry
MENS OVER 60	Eamon O'Reilly	Mossie Collins
LADIES OVER 40	Ruth Sweetnam	Anne Gray
LADIES OVER 45	Norrie O'Grady	Christine Lowry
LADIES OVER 50	Anita Mylotte	Eileen McCarthy

(Hon. League Sec. – Dublin Veterans Squash)

Leinster Squash would like to thank Brian and the Vets committee for their continued hard work running the Dublin Vets League and Cup Competitions. We are delighted to see another successful year completed and look forward to seeing you all again next season.

SATURDAY LEAGUE

We were delighted to see the Saturday League and Cup competition come to the end of another successful season. Thanks to the Committee, Tom McKeon, Arthur Moore, Patricia Sweeney and Don Conway for all their help and support throughout the year. The number of teams who competed in the event was 32 and the results were as follows:

MENS 1st DIVISION LEAGUE WINNERS: AER LINGUS, RUNNERS-UP: ESB SPORTS CO, CUP WINNERS: AER LINGUS, RUNNERS-UP: ESB SPORTS CO

MENS 2nd DIVISION LEAGUE WINNERS: SANDYCOVE, RUNNERS-UP: - LEINSTER A, CUP WINNERS: SANDYCOVE, RUNNERS-UP: LEINSTER B

MENS 3rd DIVISION LEAGUE WINNERS: COLS BOYS, RUNNERS-UP: AER LINGUS, CUP WINNERS: SANDYCOVE, RUNNERS-UP: COLS BOYS

This year we had a new event to Saturday League & Cup Competitions, The Jim Humphrey's Trophy, which added to the number of Trophies presented at the end of the Season. As many of you will know Jim Humphries was a very popular and avid Squash Player and we were very proud to have this event in his honour.

The Jim Humphrey's Trophy Competition Results are as follows:

MENS 1st DIVISION WINNERS: PHOENIX A RUNNERS-UP: AER LINGUS B

MENS 2nd DIVISION WINNERS: OLD BELVEDERE RUNNERS-UP: LEINSTER A

MENS 3rd DIVISION WINNERS: ACCENTURE RUNNERS-UP: SPORTSLINK

LADIES 1ST DIVISION LEAGUE WINNERS: SPORTSLINK, RUNNERS-UP: ESB SPORTS CO, CUP WINNERS: AER LINGUS, RUNNERS-UP: - COLS CHICKS

LADIES 2ND DIVISION LEAGUE WINNERS: ACCENTURE, RUNNERS-UP: - PHOENIX FL, CUP WINNERS: ACCENTURE, RUNNERS-UP: - PHOENIX GIRLS

SENIOR INTERPROVINCIAL 2004

The Senior Interprovincials was held over the weekend of the 23rd / 24th April 2004. This year the Leinster Teams headed south to Cork to compete in this event. Unfortunately, with the absence of Derek Ryan, Angus Kirkland, John Abrahamse and Brian Lalor, who were unavailable due to prior arrangements and Eoin Ryan and Neil Byrne due to injury, the selectors were forced into fielding a very young team.

The Teams were as follows:

[1] Nigel Peyton	(Fitzwilliam LTC)
[2] Neal Murphy	(Carlow LTC)
[3] Dara O'Flynn	(Fitzwilliam LTC)
[4] Brian Byrne	(Fitzwilliam LTC)
[5] Arthur Gaskin	(Carlow LTC)
[6] Paul Byrne	(Westwood)
[7] David Cassidy	(Mt Pleasant)
[8] Roland Budd	(Trinity College)
[9] Gerry Callanan	(Fitzwilliam LTC) (Captain)
[10] Rory Byrne	(Fitzwilliam LTC)
[11] Fergal Field	(Sutton LTC)

Sundays Well Squash Club: On Friday night, Leinster "A", Nigel Peyton, Neal Murphy, Brian Byrne and Arthur Gaskin beat Connacht 3-2 in a very tight match. In the "B" competition David Cassidy, Roland Budd, Gerry Callanan and Fergal Field beat Connacht "B" 3-2. This was a good start to the Competition and we were looking forward to the next day when we would take on Munster.

Silver Springs Squash Club: On Saturday morning Leinster "A", Nigel Peyton, Neal Murphy, Dara O'Flynn, Brian Byrne and Arthur Gaskin unfortunately lost to Munster 1-4. The Munster Team went on to win the title powered by the English born duo Paddy Foster and Phil Cullinane. The "B" competition brought more disappointment as Leinster lost this match 2-3, losing 3 of the rubbers 3-2 which left them in 2nd place with Connacht 3rd. On Saturday afternoon Leinster lost 2-3 with the same team they had used in the morning session with Neal Murphy suffering his only defeat of the weekend losing to Ulster's Andrew Browne 9-8 in the fifth set. It was good to see 2 juniors lining out with Brian Byrne and Arthur Gaskin having their first year in the senior ranks.

Leinster also sent a Ladies Team to the Interprovincials:

The Team was as follows:

[1] Emma Toolan	(Sutton LTC)
[2] Jennifer Dillon	(Westwood)
[3] Marguerite Burke	(Old Belvedere)
[4] Claire O'Brien	(Fitzwilliam LTC)
[5] Michaela Harty	(Westwood)
[6] Pam Coleman	(Aer Lingus)

In the Women's Competition the Connacht team had wins of 5-0 over Munster, Leinster and defending champions Ulster.

The presentation dinner was held in Highfield and was attended by Ciaran Seoige (Irish Squash President) and William Klinsman from Irish Squash, Lee Healy (Munster Squash President) and Gerry Callanan (Leinster Squash President).

INTERCOUNTIES 2004

The Intercounties is the English County Championships, which the Provinces of Ireland are permitted to take part in. Leinster sent five of their finest to England for the first stage which took place on the 22nd – 23rd November 2003. The Team representing Leinster was as follows:

John Abrahamse	(Spheres)
Eoin Ryan	(Sutton LTC)
Nigel Peyton	(Fitzwilliam LTC)
Neal Murphy	(Carlow)
Brian Byrne	(Fitzwilliam LTC)

1st Match: Leinster beat Oxfordshire 5/0
2nd Match: Leinster beat Worcester 5/0
3rd Match: Leinster beat Cumbria 4/1

The second stage took place in Carlisle, England on the 13th – 14th March 2004 and once again Leinster had the upper hand.

1st Match : Leinster beat Cumbria 5/0
2nd Match: Leinster beat Northumbria 4/1
3rd Match: Leinster lost to Cambridgeshire 3/2

This result together with the first stage results has guaranteed Leinster a promotion to the Division 1 section of the Intercounties for next season. A successful weekend and congratulations to the lads from all in Leinster Squash.

The Intercounties Competition gives our Leinster players a chance to play against the best in England. It provides a good “stepping-stone” for our younger player who may progress to the International circuit to gain invaluable experience at this high level of Squash.

Leinster would hope to field a Ladies Team to travel to the Intercounties next season.

LEINSTER JUNIORS

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INTERPROVINCIALS:

42 players represented Leinster in this years championships held in Galway Tennis Club. Leinster won the u15 boys title and the u13 girls title. We were runners up in the U17 boys and u17 girls titles. The competition was extremely keen and I commend Ulster for the professional approach adopted by the coaches and participants.

OTHER COMPETITIONS

This season we also ran the Leinster Junior Open, Irish Nationals and Leinster Junior Closed.

I am particularly enthused by the increase in the numbers of children playing squash in Leinster. We held a 32 draw for the first time in the under 15 boys section in the Leinster Junior Open. For the first time ever, we had a full 16 draw of U/11 boys in the Leinster Junior Closed. There seems to be a concerted effort to increase the numbers of girls playing the game and while it is not enough, the future is beginning to look bright.

The job of Junior Co-ordinator involves gathering a lot of people to help out and I would like to pay tribute to the following who were unstinting in their support throughout the last 2 years, Dermot O'Brien, Phil and Viv Moore, Majella and Mick Kilduff, Tommy and Catherine Maher, Brian and Maura Dolan, John Murphy, Tony Crowley and Peter Lawlor. If I have left anyone out it is because Suzanne is putting me under terrible pressure to get this to print and apologies.

INTER CLUBS LEAGUE:

Maura Dolan ran the interclub league again this year and this league is geared towards the beginner level of squash and plays a great part in encouraging the children to develop their skills and take part as representatives from their clubs. Following is Maura's Report on how the event progressed this season:

During the 2003\2004 season a Leinster Junior Inter-Club League was organised to provide an opportunity for junior squash players to meet with players of a similar standard from other clubs.

The participants were enthusiastic about playing matches and testing their skills against other juniors. They enjoyed the opportunity for meeting other juniors of a similar age. In all 7 clubs entered teams in the U/11, U/13 and U/15 age groups. Each team comprised 3 players and some clubs such as Sutton and ALSAA fielded more than one team in a section. It was encouraging to see a significant increase in the

number of new juniors playing squash this season, particularly in the U/11 and U/13 age groups. Hopefully, these juniors will be nurtured and encouraged to keep playing.

Many thanks to Eoin Ryan and Sutton Lawn Tennis Club for hosting the prize-giving ceremony on Sunday, 25th April 2004. Prizes were presented by Dominic Tighe, Leinster Junior Administrator. The results of the League are as follows:

U/11 SECTION 1ST PLACE: SUTTON PUMAS **2ND PLACE:**
SUTTON JAGUARS

U/13 SECTION 1ST PLACE: SUTTON TIGERS **2ND PLACE:**
SUTTON WILDCATS

U/15 SECTION 1ST PLACE: WESTWOOD
PENGUINS **2ND PLACE: SUTTON WASPS**

Players who were not on the above teams were presented with a Certificate of Participation at the prize-giving ceremony.

LEINSTER JUNIOR CLOSED

The Leinster Junior Closed was held in Alsaá Squash Club and run by Dominick Tighe, Brian Dolan and their committee of dedicated helpers who worked throughout the weekend ensuring a smooth tournament. Leinster Squash would like to thank Alsaá for their great facilities. Alsaá provide not only a good standard within the club but also great viewing and is ideal for junior tournaments where we find that the players tend to stick around to watch all the matches and play “¾ court” with each other in between matches. The tournament was a great success with very good entries in the U/11 Boys, U/13 Girls & Boys and U/15 Boys. Results of the Leinster Junior Closed are as follows:

U/11 Boys	Winner: Sean Conroy	Runner-up: David Ryan
U/11 Girls	Winner: Brona Jordan	Runners-up: Aoife Jordan & Fiona Murphy
U/13 Boys	Winner: Eoin Dolan	Runner-up: Alex Swan
U/13 Girls	Winner: Grainne Murphy	Runner-up: Anna Clifford
U/15A Boys	Winner: Brian Parker	Runner-up: David Tighe
U/15B Boys	Winner: Cathal Fitzgerald	Runner-up: Sean Farrell
U/15 Girls	Winner: Afric Doran	Runner-up: Aishling Fitzpatrick
U/17 Boys	Winner: Eugene Devereux	Runner-up: Ciaran Murphy
U/17 Girls	Winner: Ciara Moloney	Runner-up: Roisin Brennan
U/19 Boys	Winner: Andrew Keeley	Runner-up: Kareem Zaki

LEINSTER RESULTS AT ALL COMPETITIONS

Roisin Brennan: Winner Leinster and Munster Opens

Ciara Moloney: Winner Leinster, Munster, Connacht Opens and Irish Nationals

Brian Parker: Winner Connacht, Leinster and Munster Opens

Rory Byrne: Winner Ulster, Leinster Opens and Irish Nationals

LEINSTER PLAYERS CHOSEN TO REPRESENT IRELAND

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Home Internationals

-
Brian Parker
Roisin Brennan
Caitriona Murphy
Eoin Dolan

-
European Championships

Brian Parker
Rory Byrne

Worlds Championship

-
Fearghal Field
Sam Olwill

Suzanne Ryan/Leinster Squash Administrator