



LEINSTER SQUASH ANNUAL REPORT

2015

LEINSTER COUNCIL

President:	Position vacant
Vice-president:	Paul Nugent
Secretary:	Noel Storey (incoming)
Treasurer:	Gerry Delaney
Junior Administrator:	Dermot Dineen (outgoing)
Vets Administrator:	Patrick Murray
Tournament Secretary:	Position vacant
Coaching Secretary:	Andrew Gillespie
Schools Secretary:	Tommy Maher (outgoing)
Refereeing/Marking Secretary:	Position vacant
Ladies' Captain:	Aoileann Ní Chomhraí (outgoing)
Men's Captain:	Dara O'Flynn (acting)
Saturday league:	Alan Sheehy-Skeffington
Others:	Gavin Foley, David Mulligan, Simon Rogals

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Brief Synopsis of Season

We had 58 men's teams and 15 ladies' teams from 18 clubs this season. This is holding quite steady but we need to boost the number of ladies teams as league divisions with only 4 or 5 teams in them playing each other 4 and 3 times respectively is not very enjoyable for those players.

Resultszone was again used to host our results and use was extended to the Saturday league and veterans' league. There were no major issues with the service though some captains still just email or text results to me rather than post them on Resultszone using the logins supplied.

We had a couple of disciplinary issues regarding on-court behaviour but neither of these resulted in player suspension. The players were warned that such behaviour will not be tolerated in future.

Barntown club in Wexford are to be congratulated on the development work done on their facilities in the last year. An exhibition match was played there after the renovations were completed. Some members attended our postponed AGM for last season held during the Leinster Senior Open at Fitzwilliam in October.

We added a rule that all large clubs (with more than five teams in the league) must have representation on the council. This was necessary due to nobody volunteering to join the council in recent seasons and a depletion of council members. We still need to fill key vacancies, the most urgent being that of President, but participation is improving and we hope to return to normality in the new 2015/2016 season.

Our rules document needs to be updated with the above and other items in the document that are obviously out of date need to be amended.

We also need to define the roles of each council position so that anyone contemplating filling existing vacancies will have a clear idea of what is expected.

We need to rethink when and where we hold future AGMs and end-of-season prize-giving. It is proving unsatisfactory to hold both on the same day as the finals of the Irish Open and our own cup finals.

I have not yet received any reports from the outgoing junior and schools administrators for inclusion in this general report. Should I receive any before we publish online this report will be edited to include them.

Thanks to all of our host clubs for the various tournaments held this season and the volunteers who organised and ran those tournaments.

Brendan Murphy on 3rd June 2015

Senior administrator

Cup Results

Club Championship Cup: Fitzwilliam A beat Fitzwilliam B 3-2

Ivy Hadden Cup: Fitzwilliam A beat Sutton A on games won (2-2 in matches)

Gray Cup: Fitzwilliam C beat Mount Pleasant A 3-2

Ladies divisions 1 & 2 Cup: Sutton B beat Westwood B 3-0

Men's divisions 3 & 4 Cup: Fitzwilliam E beat Trinity B 3-2

Men's divisions 5 & 6 Cup: Sutton E beat Joe May A 3-2

More detailed results can be found on the Resultszone website. This applies to the league results also. Vets' and Saturday league results are now also on Resultszone.

League Results

Division	Team	#	Points	Division	Team	#	Points
M Prem	Fitzwilliam B	1	204	Men 3	Trinity B	1	158
	Fitzwilliam A	2	186		Mount Pleasant C	2	156
	Leinster A	3	161		Fitzwilliam E	3	133
	Curragh A	4	118		Tullamore A	4	103
	Westwood A	5	110		Westwood D	5	99
	Sutton A	6	104		Aer Lingus B	6	90
L Prem	Sutton A	1	131		Old Belvedere C	7	64
	Fitzwilliam A	2	115	Men 4	Sutton D	1	232
	Mount Pleasant A	3	83		Sandycove A	2	196
	Westwood A	4	45		Mount Pleasant D	3	173
Men 1	Old Belvedere A	1	148		Naas B	4	166
	Mount Pleasant A	2	146		Leinster C	5	148
	Trinity A	3	142		DCU A	6	140
	Westwood B	4	129		Aer Lingus C	7	128
	Fitzwilliam C	5	114		Westwood E	8	114
	Curragh B	6	101		Carlow B	9	97
	Sutton B	7	42	Men 5	Joe May A	1	228
Ladies 1	Sutton B	1	138		Sutton E	2	198
	Westwood B	2	122		Fitzwilliam F	3	176
	Mount Pleasant B	3	106		Old Belvedere D	4	158
	Old Belvedere A	4	66		UCD A	5	150
	Westwood C	5	21		Trinity C	6	132
Men 2	Carlow A	1	259		Mater Hospital A	7	129
	Leinster B	2	214		Naas C	8	127
	Mount Pleasant B	3	204		Leinster D	9	117
	Sportslink A	4	187	Men 6	Mater Hospital B	1	237
	Westwood C	5	173		Sandycove B	2	235
	Aer Lingus A	6	173		Fitzwilliam G	3	230
	Old Belvedere B	7	169		Fitzwilliam H	4	191
	Sutton C	8	154		Old Belvedere E	5	189
	Fitzwilliam D	9	141		Clover Hill A	6	176
	Naas A	10	125		Aer Lingus D	7	147
Ladies 2	Fitzwilliam B	1	179		Westwood F	8	130
					Trinity D	9	78
					Naas D	10	60

Sutton C	2	125
Aer Lingus A	3	114
Sutton D	4	108
Trinity A	5	87
Leinster A	6	68

Senior Ranking Tournaments Held in Leinster

#	<u>Curragh Open</u>	<u>Leinster Open</u>	<u>Mount Pleasant Open</u>	<u>Nationals</u>
1	Brian Byrne	Brian Byrne	Michael Craig	Arthur Gaskin
2	Steve Richardson	Michael Craig	Derek Ryan	Brian Byrne
3	Michael Craig	Nigel Peyton	Steve Richardson	Michael Craig
4	Sean Conroy	Rory Byrne	Keith Moran	Steve Richardson
5	Keith Moran	Keith Moran	Rory Byrne	Sean Conroy
6	Sam Olwill	Sam Olwill	Niall Rooney	Derek Ryan
7	Pat Morrissey	Theo Anderson	Conor O'Hare	Rory Byrne
8	Michael Conroy	Peter McNeice	Rory Gilligan	Keith Moran
9	Rory Gilligan	Gordon Harpur	Gordon Harpur	Conor O'Hare
10	David Cassidy	Nikita Gilevskiy	Sam Olwill	Gordon Harpur
11	Scott Gillanders	Paul Linehan	Theo Anderson	Sam Olwill
12	Neal Pollock	Kevin Davey	Darren Waring	Niall Rooney
13	Neal Murphy	Scott Gillanders	Michael Conroy	Nigel Peyton
14	Oisin Dunne	Oisin Dunne	Conor O'Shea	Michael Conroy
15	Alan Megaw	Mark Gilliland	Nikita Gilevskiy	Rory Birtwistle
16	Anthony Lyons	Conor O'Shea	Neal Murphy	Colm Travers
17	Philip Coleman	Ryan Luther	Neal Pollock	Rory Gilligan
18	Philip McSweeney	Gerry Callanan	Kevin Davey	Mark Gilliland
19	Howard Gill	Colm Travers	Peter McNeice	Kevin Davey
20	David Knox	Peter Kenny	David Cassidy	Theo Anderson
21	Gordon Harpur	Michael McIlroy	Colm Travers	David Noone
22	Martin O'Neill	Stephen Fasnfeld	Scott Gillanders	Luke Logan
23	Paul O'Mahony	Thomas Abraham	Stephen Hearst	Stephen Hearst
24	Niall Hurley	Harry Lloyd	Mark Furlong	Conor O'Shea
	<u>Ladies</u>			
	<u>Curragh Open</u>	<u>Leinster Open</u>	<u>Mount Pleasant Open</u>	<u>Nationals</u>
1	Ciara Moloney	Ciara Moloney	Ciara Moloney	Madeline Perry
2	Casey Luther	Fiona Power	Griffin Gillanders	Aisling Blake
3	Niamh Brennan	Roisin O'Shea	Niamh Maher	Laura Mylotte
4	Sandra Walshe	Niamh Maher	Niamh Brennan	Hannah Craig
5	Patricia Ryan	Niamh Brennan	Roisin O'Shea	Fiona Power

6	Sarah Corcoran	Casey Luther	Sarah Corcoran	Niamh Maher
7	Joan Gorham	Sarah Corcoran	Chantelle Day	Deirdre Byrne
8	Deirdre Byrne	Lily Lloyd	Joan Gorham	Niamh Brennan
9	Aoileann Ní Chomhraí	Sarah Berkeley	Sandra Walshe	Lily Lloyd
10	Sarah McDonnell	Sarah McDonnell	Eimear Rooney	Aoileann Ní Chomhraí
11		Deirdre Byrne	Claire Bergin	
12			Audrey Kieran	
13			Casey Luther	
14				
15				
16				

Saturday League

The Saturday League season came to its climax on March 28th, with the finals of the cup competitions which were hosted by ALSAA. In the league this year there were 12 teams in two divisions. The Leagues having already been won by Trinity A and Leinster B respectively, on finals day it remained to decide the various Cup and Plate competitions. The Division 2 Cup was won by Old Belvedere, and Plate winners were Leinster B. There were no contenders for the Division 1 Plate, leaving all eyes on the top contest for the Division 1 Cup between locals Aer Lingus A and Joe Mays of Skerries. This was the closest match of the evening but ended unfortunately as with the match tied 2-2, the final Joe Mays player was unable to attend due to his wife's illness. So Aer Lingus took the cup but the honours were deemed to be shared. The full results for the year are as follows:

	Winner	R-Up	Score
Div 1 Cup	Aer Lingus A	Joe Mays	3/2
Div 1 Plate	(VOID)		-
Div 2 Cup	Old Belvedere	De la Salle B	4/1
Div 2 Plate	Leinster B	Trinity B	4/1
Jim Humphries Cup	Trinity A	Aer Lingus B	3/2
Jim Humphries Plate	RTE	DCU	w/o
Div 1 League	Trinity A	Joe Mays	
Div 2 League	Leinster B	Old Belvedere	

As always we welcome entries for the coming year which should be received mid-September at the latest. We particularly welcome entries from clubs not currently involved in the Leinster Leagues.

Alan Sheehy-Skeffington

Masters (Veterans) Secretary Report

DUBLIN VETERANS

20th April 2015

DUBLIN VETERANS SECTION - ANNUAL REPORT

2014/2015 SEASON

LEAGUES We had two divisions in the League as last year. The **First Division** had 5 x 3-player teams and played each other twice on a 'home' and 'away' basis. The **Second Division** had 7 x 5 player teams and also played each other twice on a 'home' and 'away' basis

The results were as follows -

DIV	PTS	WINNER	PTS	RUNNER-UP
1	60	O Belvedere A	57	Westwood A
2	152	Sandycove	146	Aer Lingus

CUPS The Cup matches were once again run on the "Handicap" system where the weaker team was given the average of the difference between the teams in the League Matches with the maximum handicap being capped at 10 points.

CUP FINALS TO BE PLAYED ON 23RD APRIL 2015

DIV	WINNER	RUNNER-UP
1		
2		

The Resultszone software was used for the League for the first time this season and proved very successful. The Handicap was run manually as it proved to be difficult to handle the handicaps within Resultszone.

SPONSORSHIP

We are indebted to NUA Healthcare for sponsorship to help with the costs of running the Leagues and Cups and also the Leinster Masters Open and the Masters Interpros which were held in Galway this season where the Mens O 45 team under the captaincy of Kevin Ronan were the winners of the O 45 section.

COMPETITIONS

Leinster Masters Open - was held in Fitzwilliam on 1st and 2nd November 2013. Results were as follows -

Leinster Masters Open Results		
SECTION	WINNER	RUNNER UP
MENS OVER 35	Ronan Peyton	Kevin Moore (Retd.)
MENS OVER 40	Dara O'Flynn	John Hurley
MENS OVER 45 A	Brian Lalor	Adrian Leeson
MENS OVER 45 B	Geoff Wales	Conor O'Neill
MENS OVER 50 A	George Hewitt	Dave Borton
MENS OVER 50 B	Fergal Redmond	Francis O'Toole
MENS OVER 55 A	Donal Coughlan	Martin Mc Donnell
MENS OVER 55 B	Shay Hickey	Eamon O'Keefe
MENS OVER 60	Kyran Hurley	Patrick Hanley
MENS OVER 65	Terry Norman	Tom Cantwell
MENS OVER 70	Frank Fahey	Ciaran Roche
LADIES OVER 35	Sarah Berkley	Suzanne Butler
LADIES OVER 50	Mary O'Duffy	Dympna Reardon

Irish Masters Open - was sponsored by *Fitzwilliam LTC* and

held in Fitzwilliam from 20th to 22nd March 2015.

Results were as follows -

Irish Masters Open Results		
SECTION	WINNER	RUNNER UP
MENS OVER 45	Paul Lenihan	Jonathan Simpson
MENS OVER 50	Andre Maur	George Hewitt
MENS OVER 55	Mark Taylor	Martin Mc Donnell
MENS OVER 60	Pat Hanley	Frank Donnelly
MENS OVER 65	Terry Norman	Seamus Daly
MENS OVER 70	Frank Fahey	Ciaran Roche
LADIES OVER 35	Joan Gorham	Michele Jackson
LADIES OVER 50	Noelle Treacy	Ruth Coates
LADIES OVER 60	Deirdre Davys	Maeve Spotswood

Masters Interpros were held in Dublin on 10th and 11th April 2015

Results were as follows -

SECTION	WINNER	POINTS	RUNNER UP	POINTS
Mens's Over 45	Ulster	34	Leinster	19
Mens's Over 55	Munster	46	Ulster	35
Mens's Over 65	Munster	32	Leinster	23
Ladies Over 35	Leinster	21	Ulster	16
Ladies Over 50	Ulster	24	Munster	12

Leinster Teams in the Masters Interpros were -

Ladies O 35

1. Joan Gorham
2. Jennie Dillon
3. Suzanne Butler

Ladies O 50

1. Anne Costelloe
2. Christine Lowry
3. Christine Mooney
4. Sylvia Doyle

Mens O 45

1. Brian Lalor
2. David Cassidy
3. Jim Flynn
4. Karam Singh
5. Aiden Coppinger
6. Stephen Fassenfeld
7. Tom Crowe

Mens O 55

1. Frank Donnelly
2. Martin Maher
3. Shay Hickey
4. Michael Morrissey
5. John Sexton

Mens O 65

1. Seamus Daly
2. Ciaran Roche
3. Tom Coady
4. Declan Mc Devitt



League Secretary - Veterans Squash

Ladies' Captain Report

Leinster Ladies Squash 2014-2015

September 2014

3rd-6th European Club Championships Nottingham, England

12th-14th Curragh Senior Open Curragh Tour 1 Curragh, Co. Kildare

Kicking off the squash season Ciara Moloney, Jody Hannon, Patricia Moloney, Niamh Brennan, Aoileann Ní Chomhraí, Casey Ella Luther, Niamh Maher, Deirdre Byrne, Sarah Corcoran, Joan Gorham, Sarah McDonnell and Sandra Walshe all took part in the Curragh Open. Ciara came first place.

October 20th Women's Squad Development Mt Pleasant, Dublin 2014

3rd-5th Munster Senior Open TOUR 2 Cork

Ciara Moloney, Casey Ella Luther, Niamh Brennan, Deirdre Byrne, Sandra Walshe and Niamh Maher travelled to Cork to play in the Munster Senior open. Ciara Moloney came second losing only to Eleanor Laphorne in the final.

24th-26th Ulster Senior Open Tour 3 Ballyearl, Newtownabbey

Deirdre Byrne travelled to Belfast to compete in the Ulster Senior Open. She lost to Hannah Mary Craig but beat Caitlin Hannah Telford and Ellie Elizabeth Mcveigh.

November 2014

8th-9th Senior Intercounties England

Stephanie Ryan, Niamh Brennan, Aoileann NíChomhraí, Niamh Maher of Sutton LTC and Ciara Moloney of Carlow represented Irish Squash at the Senior Intercounties in Shropshire, England.

The Leinster team won outright beating all of the English teams convincingly.

14th-16th Leinster Senior Open TOUR 4 Fitzwilliam LTC, Dublin

Ciara Moloney, Griffin Gillanders, Casey Ella Luther, Niamh Brennan, Sarah Berkeley, Deirdre Byrne, Niamh Maher, Sarah Corcoran, Sarah Mc Donnell, Lily Lloyd and Alessia Osborne took part in the Leinster Open in Fitzwilliam LTC. Ciara played and beat Sachika Irshwin Balvanin in the final in a gripping five set game to claim first place.

December 2014

1st-6th Women's World Team Championships Niagara on the Lake, Canada

The women's world team event took place in Canada this year and the Leinster ladies made a huge effort to fundraise for the Irish Team. It was very well supported by female squash players. Among the many fundraising efforts there was a successful table quiz held in Fitzwilliam LTC which was MC'd by Niamh Maher.

5th-7th Connacht Senior Open Tour 5 Sligo

January 2015

23rd-25th Mount Pleasant Open Tour 6 Mount Pleasant, Dublin

Ciara Moloney, Griffin Gillanders, Niamh Maher, Casey Ella Luther, Niamh Brennan, Sandra Walshe, Sarah Corcoran, Eimear Rooney, Joan Gorham, Claire Bergin and Chantelle Day entered and played in the Women's A Section of the Mount Pleasant Open this year. Ciara Moloney claimed first place having beaten Griffin Gillanders 3-0 in the final.

February 2015

26th-1st Leinster Senior Closed Sutton LTC, Dublin

Stephanie Ryan, Niamh Maher, Niamh Brennan, Sarah Berkeley, Deirdre Byrne, Aoileann Ní Chomhraí and Anne Costello made up the Ladies A draw in the 2015 Leinster Senior Closed. Niamh Maher beat Stephanie Ryan 3-2 in the final.

20th-22nd Senior Nationals TOUR 7 Fitzwilliam LTC, Dublin

Niamh Brennan, Anne Costello, Niamh Maher & Aoileann Ní Chomhraí took part in the Irish Squash Senior Closed Championships along with top Irish Players, Madeline Perry, Aisling Blake, Laura Mylotte. The Women's Final saw 14- time Irish Champion and world number 14, Madeline Perry beat Sligo's Aisling Blake 3-0 in a very convincing display.

March 2015

15th-16th Senior Intercounties England

Stephanie Ryan, Niamh Brennan and Aoileann Ní Chomhraí of Sutton joined Ciara Moloney from Carlow and Deirdre Byrne from Fitzwilliam LTC to represent Leinster in the second stage of the intercounties. The Leinster Team won the first Stage outright back in November with the help of Niamh Maher who Wasn't available for this event. They travelled to Devon to take part in the second stage of the Intercounties but were up against harder competition in this stage. They came 3rd and missed promotion to Division One for next Season.

27th-29th Ballyearl Senior Open Tour 8 Ballyearl, N'abbey, Co. Antrim

Unfortunately there was no ladies section.

April 2015

14th-19th West Of Ireland Tour 9 Galway

Niamh Brennan, Niamh Maher and Deirdre Byrne entered and competed in the Ladies A section. While it was a small section of only four players there were many long tough five set matches. In the final Deirdre Byrne lost only to Fiona Power.

20th-25th Cannon Kirk Homes Irish Open PSA/WSA Fitzwilliam LTC, Dublin

Ciara played against czech competitor Anna in the qualifying round.

May

8th-9th Senior Interprovincials Belfast

Unfortunately there was no ladies section in the interprovincials this year.

23rd-24th All Ireland Club Championships Mt. Pleasant, Dublin

The Irish Squash All Ireland Club Championships took place in Mt Pleasant Squash Club. Mount Pleasant LTC (Suzanne Swan, Chantelle, Joan Gorham) Fitzwilliam LTC (Griffin Gillanders, Vicky Menzies, Lily Lloyd, Deirdre Byrne-injured during play) and Sutton LTC (Stephanie Ryan, Niamh Maher, Niamh Brennan) played against each other. Mount Pleasant

took on and beat Fitzwilliam premier ladies on Friday evening. The Sutton Ladies played Mt Pleasant and Fitzwilliam LTC on

Saturday and beat both teams. They will now represent Sutton LTC at the European Club Championships in Poland in September.

The ladies division 1 & 2 cup final was played in Mount Pleasant. The Sutton LTC 'Ladies B' (Julie Jordan, Anne Costello, Jennifer Darling) beat Westwood Ladies B (Isabell Stuetgen, Clodagh Myers, Anna Sniezko). The Sutton ladies all won their matches 3-0. The dead rubber (Christine Lowry vs Catriona Myers was not played). They will be promoted to the Premier league next year.

Ivy Hadden Trophy: The Sutton Ladies Premier Team lost to Fitzwilliam LTC on a points count back.

End of season league results:

Ladies Premier Teams:

Winners: Sutton LTC Runners up: Fitzwilliam LTC

Sutton Ladies A 131 points

Fitzwilliam Ladies A 115 points

Mount Pleasant Ladies A 83 points

Westwood Ladies A 45 points

Ladies Division 1

Winners: Sutton LTC Runners up: Westwood

Sutton Ladies B 138 points

Westwood Ladies B 122 points

Mount Pleasant Ladies B 106 points

Old Belvedere Ladies A 66 points

Westwood Ladies C 21 points

Ladies Division 2

Winners: Fitzwilliam LTC Runners up: Sutton LTC

Fitzwilliam Ladies B 179 points

Sutton Ladies C 125 points

Aer Lingus Ladies A 114 points

Sutton Ladies D 108 points

Trinity College Ladies A 87 points

Leinster Ladies A 68 points

Men's Captain Report on Senior Interpros in Belfast

Teams:

- A Team: Nigel Peyton, Rory Byrne, Dara O'Flynn, Oisin Dune, Ronan Peyton
- B Team: Nikita Gilevskaya, Scott Gillanders, Ed Dune, Neal Brannigan, John Dillon, Ryan Kelly.

Friday Evening Matches:

Leinster A	5	Munster A	0
Leinster B	4	Munster B	1

First up was Munster A & B, despite the score line and the results these matches were competitive, the new Leinster caps included our emerging junior talent Oisin (U17's) stepping up onto the A team and winning well, Nikita (U19's), Scott (U15's) and Ryan (U17's) captained by Ed Dune on the B team all played well with only Ryan losing his match at 5 in a close four sets. Ronan Peyton who was the A team captain led the way winning our first match dropping a set to his opponent but winning well in the end. Rory, Dara and Nigel all winning their matches without dropping a set but were closely contested games. So a good start to the weekend and setting the matches up for the following day.

Saturday A Matches:

Leinster A	3	Connacht	2
Leinster B	5	Connacht	0

Connacht A had the benefit of bringing in Brian Byrne fresh from his European Irish team success was in good form fielded a very strong team so we knew this would be a tight encounter. The number 1's were first up and while Nigel played some great squash Brian

had too much in the legs and won in a 4 close sets. Again our captain Ronan Peyton settled the nerves with a 3.1 win at 5, it was a tight game and Ronan had to battle back in the third and then managed to pull away for the win. Dara was next up and won in 3 and then it was Oisín up against the experienced David Noone who played a patience, intelligent game denying Oisín any rhythm and winning through in 3 games. A tough experience for Oisín but will no doubt be a good learning curve for a terrific talent for the future. So with the match in the balance at 2 sets a piece it was down to the number 2's Rory Byrne against Keith Moran – they served up a cracking encounter with Keith digging in deep played relentless squash to bring it all the way to fifth but Rory managed to find the extra gear and pulled away winning the match 3.2 and giving Leinster the overall win. The Leinster B team had a more comprehensive win beating Connacht 5.0, John Dillon came in for Ryan and won well setting the team up for the overall win.

Saturday PM:

Leinster A	4	Ulster A	1	Leinster Winners
Ulster B	4	Leinster B	1	Ulster Winners

Both the A & B team reached the final and it set the scene for a gripping climax. The A fixture was difficult to call with the entire line up evenly matched – our captain Ronan was clearly up for this final as he played some gutsy squash beating Peter McNeice who was winning his first Interprovincial caps for Ulster and was equally determined to put in a performance for his county. Ronan won 3.1 in a really entertaining game and gave us a great platform to build on. Dara was next on against his O40's Master team mate David Ayerst – the last time they played one another Dara won 14.12 in the fifth and this was to be another thriller, both players giving everything with Dara managing to edge it 11.9 in the fifth. This put Leinster into a commanding lead but Michael Craig also back from the men's senior Europeans beat Nigel in three sets to bring it back to 2.1. It was a tough ask for Nigel after playing against Brian Byrne that morning and he fought well but could not compete with Michael's overall game. Oisín Dune was next on and faced an experienced Neal Pollock so this was a great test for the young junior to compose himself and find a way past the craft of the Ulster number 4. Oisín dominated the first 2 sets playing a high tempo game with control and consistency that left Neal struggling to compete. Neal bounced in the third back by changing the game mixing up the pace and denying Oisín the same pattern he had developed in the earlier sets. However despite this set back Oisín came through in the fourth working hard to regain his lead and drove home the advantage winning 3.1 and thus giving the A team the overall result and victory. Rory Byrne played out and won the final match 3.0 in what was a dead rubber sealing an overall 4.1 win.

The B final was another terrific set of matches, there were 3 five setters all going the way of the Ulster players sadly. First up was John Dillon who met the stubborn resistance in

the shape of Shaun McKee and lost that 11.9 in the fifth, Martin O'Neill went on to beat Neal Brannigan 11.8 in the fifth and although Neal fought back to win the fourth he could not manage to take the last game. With Shaun and Martin at 4 & 5 this Ulster team were very experienced. Nikita our number 1 won his first 2 sets but was unable to capitalise on his lead losing out to Ben Craig who to his credit hung in determined to make it as difficult as he could for Nikita and in the end won 11.7 in the fifth. Ed Dune had a very competitive game with Adrian Lesson and was disappointed for getting himself into 3 game balls in the third but managed to let that slip away eventually going down in 3.1. Scott Gillanders won his match overcoming a another tricky opponent Alan 'whack it' Megaw so that gave Leinster the only win and also preserved Scott's unbeaten record for the weekend – 100% senior wins which is not bad for another one of our future junior stars. Leinster were unlucky not to get on the other side of some of the five setters and on another day the score could have been reversed but it was Ulster's day and their victory so congratulations to them.

Summary:

It was really encouraging to get some many of the top class seniors participating and playing particularly after some of their excursions in Men's seniors in Denmark along with full teams from all the men's in the respective provinces. The standard of squash was very high across the matches and there was plenty of intensity in the games. The Leinster juniors as referenced earlier I believe got a good insight to senior squash playing different and difficult opponents which will help them develop their games and mentality. It was also a great warm up to the U15's/U17's junior Europeans in Porto this week and we wish them all luck. The event was played in great spirit with a mostly full attendance for the evening meal and the presentation, the Leinster contingent left that evening to get some of them back for squads for the following day.

A big thanks to Ulster Squash for organising the event along with the Boat Club and Michelle Jackson and her team over the weekend and of course the Leinster players for making the effort to make the event, playing great squash and having a good laugh along way.

Dara

Leinster Senior Closed 2015

Thanks to Sutton LTC for hosting this tournament yet again and Eoin and Suzanne Ryan for their work in running it. Results are as follows:

Men's A

1. Nigel Peyton
2. Dara O'Flynn
3. Oisín Dunn
4. Eoin Ryan
5. Ronan Peyton
6. Luke Logan
7. John Dillon
8. Robin Craig

Men's B

1. Simon Rogals
2. Karam Singh
3. Stephen Hanratty
4. Kevin Humphreys
5. Shane Hickey
6. Ryan Kelly
7. David Read
8. John Nolan

Ladies' A

1. Niamh Maher
2. Stephanie Ryan
3. Niamh Brennan
4. Deirdre Byrne
5. Aoileann Ní Chomhraí

6. Sarah Berkeley
7. Anne Costelloe