



Connacht Squash Provincial Annual Report

2007/2008 Season

COMPETITION:

The 2007/2008 Season was very active competition wise beginning with **The Connacht Junior Open** hosted by Galway Lawn Tennis Club over the weekend of 14th/16th September 2007.

Tournament Director: Edwin Brennan.

Results:-

Boys U11	11 Winner Philip McSweeney	Rup Daniel Pender.
Girls U11	11 Winner Aoife Turley	Rup Stephaine Ryan.
Boys U13	13 Winner Michael Craig	Rup Ciarán Maher and Plate winner Stephen Lavin.
Girls U13	Winner Labhoise Dunbar	Rup Saoirse McGrath.
Boys U15	Winner Daniel Harkin	Rup Alan Quigley and Plate winner Ryan McHale.
Girls U15	Winner Jennifer Hegarty	Rup Eva McMillan and Plate winner Orna Murray.
Boys U17	Winner Ben Craig	Rup Joey Roberts and Plate winner Darragh Murray.
Girls U17	Winner Niamh O'Hare	Rup Gabriella McMillan and Plate winner Claire Hanley.
Boys U19	Winner John Roberts	Rup Theodore Anderson and Plate winner David Tighe.
Girls U19	Winner Sarah Corcoran	Rup Sarah Murphy

Connacht Master's Open hosted by Galway Lawn Tennis Club over weekend of 23rd – 24th November 2007. **Sponsor: Anonymous** (*By Request*)

Tournament Director: Jim Hynes **Tournament Referee: Mike Flattery**

Results: *See Attached Veteran's Report*

Sligo Junior Open hosted by Sligo Tennis Club on 6th January 2008.
Sponsor: Permanent TSB **Tournament Director: Tony Quigley**

Results:

Boys U11

1st Sean Power
2nd Niall McDermott

Girls U11

1st Rachael Quigley
2nd Rachel Gallagher

Boys U13

1st Ciaran Maher
2nd Stephen Quigley

Girls U 13

1st Fiona Power
2nd Sarah McDermott

Boys U15

1st Peter Mooney
2nd Michael Hannon

Girls U15

1st Carina Humphries

Boys U17

1st Alan Quigley
2nd Rory O'Connor

Girls u17

1st Aisling Power

Boys U19

1st Sean Caheny
2nd Kevin Davey

Connacht Senior Open hosted by Sligo Tennis Club weekend of 2nd-4th November 2007 (Irish Squash Tour Tournament)

Tournament Director: Keith Moran

**Sponsors: SL Controls, Brooks
Hanley, Ulster Bank & Irish Squash**

Results: Men's A

Winner –Derek Ryan (Leinster)
R-Up – Rory Byrne (Leinster)

Connacht Senior Closed hosted by Galway Lawn Tennis Club weekend of 9th-10th February 2007. **Sponsor: The Connacht Tribune.**

Tournament Director: Edwin Brennan

Results: Men's A

Winner – Niall Rooney (Galway)
R-Up – David Noone (Galway)

Connacht Junior Closed hosted by Sligo Tennis Club weekend of 9th March 2008.

Tournament Director: Tony Quigley

Sponsor: Standard Life

Results:

Boys u11

1st Mark Trainor
2nd Tomas Power

Girls U11

1st Roisin O'Shea
2nd Rachel Gallagher

Boys U13

1st Stephen Quigley
2nd Tomas Donovan

Girls U 13

1st Saoirse McGrath
2nd Fiona Power

Boys U15

1st Tomas Breathneach
2nd David Sharkey

Girls U17

Boys U17

1st Conor O'Shea
2nd Rory O'Connor

1st Claire Hanley
2nd Louise Fahey

West of Ireland Open hosted by Galway Lawn Tennis Club over Easter weekend
23rd-25th March 2008 (**Irish Squash Tour Tournament and PSA event**)
Sponsor: Garavan's Bar, Irish Squash & Irish Sports Council

Tournament Director – Edwin Brennan Tournament Referee- Brian Williams

Results:	PSA section	Winner	Scott Handley	(England)
		Runner-up	John Rooney	(Galway)
	Men's A	Winner	Derek Ryan	(Leinster)
		Runner-Up	Niall Rooney	(Galway)
	Ladies	Winner	Kerri Sheilds	(Ulster)
		Runner-Up	Tanya Owens	(Ulster)

Leagues –

The CBE Connacht League was re-started this season after an absence of 4 years. 6 teams in 2 divisions competed for the championships. Galway L.T.C. emerged victorious in both divisions after a season of competitive matches. A number of new teams have expressed an interest in competing in next year's league. Connacht Squash is indebted to Helen Reapy for her hard work over the past season organising the league.

Irish Senior National Championships hosted by Fitzwilliam L.T.C over the weekend 14th-16th December 2007 – Connacht Finalists:-

Men's Runner-up – John Rooney (Galway)
Women's Runner-up - Aisling Blake (Sligo)

2007-2008 - A VINTAGE YEAR FOR CONNACHT MASTERS' SQUASH

The 2007 **CONNACHT MASTERS' SQUASH OPEN** tournament was held in Galway Lawn Tennis Club from Friday 23rd November to Saturday 24th November 2007. The tournament was sponsored as usual by an anonymous donor. Jim Hynes took over the running of the tournament ably assisted by Gerry Fahy (tournament referee), Michael and Patricia Hynes and other members of the squash committee of Galway Lawn Tennis Club.

Tournament Organiser/Director: Jim Hynes

Tournament Referee: Gerry Fahy

Total entries of 64 was considerable up on the previous year and included a good number of overseas players. The ladies O-40 attracted a full entry of eight . There were twelve entries in the O-45 age group and these were divided into A and B sections with eight in Section A and four in Section B. The O-50A and O-50B section each attracted eight players. There were eight players in the O-55A section with four in the O-55B. Both the O-60A and O-60B sections had full complements of eight players. As usual, the entry included many of the top-ranked Irish players. The overall standard of play was excellent with some wonderful closely fought matches.

Eddie Murphy beat Neil Stone Wigg in a repeat of the previous years final of the O45A section in a hard fought final and as a result got another plaque on the Michael Devaney trophy which is awarded to the winner of the O-45A section. Alf Kavanagh beat Kyran Hurley to take his first Connacht Masters' O-55 win. As usual, Tom Cantwell can be relied on to put up a good performance and again he did not disappoint and beat Colm Andrews to take the O-60 trophy.

Local players player Norrie O'Grady kept a clean sheet by overcoming Caroline Cullen, Anita Mylotte and Claire Jones to take the Ladies O-40 Section. President of Irish Squash overcame local player Tim Bohan to take the Men's O-45B title.

The overall results are as follows:

Division	Winner	Runner-up	Score
Ladies	Norrie O'Grady (C)	Claire Jones (M)	3/0
Men O-45A	Eddie Murphy (M)	Neil Stone Wigg (L)	3/2
Men O-45B	John O'Connor (L)	Tim Bohan (C)	3/0
Men O-50	Neil O'Sullivan (M)	Steve Ewer (U)	3/0
Men O-50B	Robert Garvin	Tim O'Sullivan (M)	3/0
Men O-55	Alf Kavanagh (C)	Kyran Hurley (L)	3/1
Men O-60A	Tom Cantwell (C)	Colm Andrews	3/0
Men O-60 B	Jim Bowe	Ciaran Roche (L)	3/2

The Masters' Interprovincial Championships, Ulster 2008

The 2007 Masters' Interprovincial Championships were held in Ulster this year and took place on Friday and Saturday 4th and 5th April 2008 at Ballyearl. Due to a variety of reasons, Connacht did not field a Men's O-45 team this year. The Connacht ladies triumphed in the O-50 grade.

The Connacht Teams were as follows:

No.	Men's O-55	Ladies O-50
1	Tom Cantwell (Westwood)	Norrie O'Grady (Galway)
2	Andrew Larkin	Anita Mylotte (Galway)
3	John Kielty (Sligo)	Maura Horan (Galway)
4	Donal Geraghty (Galway)	
5	Tommy Knight (Ballina)	
6	Frank Fahy (Ballina)	

Masters' Interprovincial Championships 2008

Event	Winners	Runners-Up
Men's O-45	Munster	Ulster
Men's O-55	Leinster	Ulster
Ladies' O-40	Ulster	Leinster
Ladies O-50	Connacht	Leinster

Other achievements in Masters' Squash by Connacht Players in 2008

Senator Windows Munster Masters' Open (January 18, 19 2008)

Norrie O'Grady beat Claire Jones to take the Ladies title while T.J. Mullins was runner-up in the O-50 grade.

Leinster Masters' Open (November 2, 3, 2007)

Tom Cantwell won the O-60 while Alf Kavanagh was runner-up to Terry Norman in the O-55 grade.

Connacht Masters' Players selected for International duty.

Ladies O-50 Norrie O'Grady and Anita Mylotte

Men's O-50: T.J. Mullins

Men's O-55: John Kielty

Mens's O-60 Tom Cantwell

Michael J. Hynes.

May 2008

COACHING: -

At the end of last season Colin Whitney returned to the UK to further his career. His brother Kevin Whiney assumed the role of head coach in Galway L.T.C. where he coached up to 60 juniors and a number of seniors on a weekly basis. He was also appointed Connacht regional development officer. He travelled to Sligo in the first part of the season; however Siobhan Parker took over the coaching in Sligo after Christmas. Numbers have increased steadily over the past few seasons and we hope to target a number of new clubs next season including Claremorris where Helen Reapy has begun coaching a number of juniors on a weekly basis.

PLAYERS SELECTED TO REPRESENT IRELAND: -

Senior European Championships **Amsterdam, Holland**

John Rooney (Galway) *
Niall Rooney (Galway)
Laura Mylotte (Galway)
Aisling Blake (Sligo)

Senior Men's World Championships **Chennai, India**

John Rooney (Galway)

Junior –

U-13 Home Internationals

Fiona Power (Galway)
Stephen Quigley (Sligo)

U-15 Home Internationals

Conor O'Shea (Galway)

U-15 European Championships

Conor O'Shea (Galway)

Master's - Vet's/ Vintage Home Internationals: -

Ladies O-50: - Norrie O'Grady (Galway)

Ladies O-50: - Anita Mylotte (Galway)

Man's O-50: - TJ Mullins (Galway)

Men's O-55: - John Kielty (Sligo)

Men's O-60: - Tom Cantwell (Westwood)

Senior Players selected: 5

Junior Players selected: 4

Masters Players selected: 5

* Selected, but unable to travel due to injury.

Edwin Brennan

Secretary, Connacht Squash.