

Connacht Squash Provincial Annual Report

2005/2006 Season

This years Connacht Squash Council consisted of: -

Bernadette Parker (*Secretary & Junior Admin.*), Norrie O'Grady (*Treasurer*), Michael Hynes (*Recording Secretary*), Jim Hynes (*Master's Secretary*),

Helen Reapy (*P.R.O.*), Bernadette Parker & Anita Mylotte (*Provincial Reps to Irish Squash*), Kevin Rooney (*Child Protection Officer*), Joe Murray, Noel Lynn & Mary Murray (*General Committee*)

COMPETITION:

The 2005/2006 Season was very active competition wise beginning with **The Connacht Junior Open** hosted by Galway Lawn Tennis Club over the weekend of 16th/18th September 2005

Tournament Directors: Joe Collins & Edwin Brennan

Results:-

U-11 Boys	Name	Province
Winner	Michael Craig	Ulster
Runner Up	David Ryan	Leinster
3 rd	Connall Brady	Leinster
U-13 Boys		
Winner	Brian Dunbar	Munster
Runner Up	Conor Caheny	Connacht
3 rd	Darragh Butler	Munster
U-15 Boys		

Winner	Ben Criag	Ulster
Runner Up	Hugo Diamond	Ulster
3 rd	Colm Dolan	Leinster
U-17 Boys		
Winner	Kevin Davey	Connacht
Runner Up	Sean Caheny	Connacht
3rd	Brian Parker	Leinster
U-19 Boys		
Winner	Conor O'Hare	Ulster
Runner Up	Ben Ramasubbu	Ulster
3 rd	Gordon Harpur	Ulster
U-13 Girls		
Winner	Bronagh Jordan	Leinster
Runner Up	Rachel Power	Munster
3rd	Aoife Jordan	Leinster
U-15 Girls		
Winner	Sarah Murphy	Leinster
Runner Up	Katelyn Doran	Leinster
3 rd	Catheryn Abernethy	Ulster
U-17 Girls		
Winner	Róisín Brennan	Leinster
Runner Up	Kirsten McAllister	Ulster
3rd	Caroline Kenna	Connacht

Connacht Master's Open hosted by Galway Lawn Tennis Club over weekend of 25th - 26th of November.

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 over weekend of 7th & 8th of January.
Sponsor: Permanent TSB **Tournament Director: Tony Quigley**

Results:

Grade	Winner	Runner Up
U-11 Boys	Ciarán Maher	Tim Dunne
U-13 Girls	Gabrielle Gallagher	Maria Murray
U-15 Boys	Conor Caheny	Alan Quigley
U-15 Girls	Gabriella McMillan	Rachel Power
U-17 Girls	Sarah Howley	Caroline Kenna
U-17 Boys	Kevin Davey	Sean Caheny

Irish Senior National Championships hosted by Fitzwilliam L.T.C over the weekend 16th-18th December 2005

Ladies Winner – Laura Mylotte (Galway)
Runner-up - Aishling Blake (Sligo)

Connacht Senior Open hosted by Sligo Tennis Club weekend of 13th/15th January 2006 (Irish Squash Tour Tournament)

Tournament Director: John Kielty

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

Results:

Men's A: Winner -John Rooney (Galway)

Runner Up: Angus Kirkland (Leinster) 3rd – Arthur Gaskin (Leinster)

Connacht Senior Closed hosted by Galway Lawn Tennis Club weekend of 3rd-4th February 2006.

Sponsor: The Connacht Tribune.

Tournament Director: Gerry Fahy Tournament Referee: Matt O'Connor

Results:

Men's A

Winner – Keith Moran (Sligo)

Runner Up – Colin Whitney (Galway)

Connacht Junior Closed hosted by Sligo Tennis Club weekend of 3rd/5th March 2006.

Tournament Director: Tony Quigley

Sponsor: Standard Life

Results:

Grade	Winner	Runner Up
U-11 Boys	Stephen Quigley	Niall McDermott
U-15 Boy	Alan Quigley	Cian Cantwell
U-17 Boys	Kevin Davey	Barry Collins
U-13 Girls	Gabrielle Gallagher	Fiona Power
U-15 Girls	Aisling Power	Nicole Fowley
U-17 Girls	Louise Concannon	Sarah Howley

Master's Interprovincial Championships hosted by Galway Lawn Tennis Club over weekend of 3rd-4th March 2006.

Sponsor- Joe Higgins

Tournament Director: Jim Hynes Tournament Referee: Mike Flattery

Results: *See Attached Veteran's Report*

West of Ireland Open hosted by Galway Lawn Tennis Club over Easter weekend 14th/16th April 2006 (Irish Squash Tour Tournament)

Sponsor: Garavans & Irish Squash

Tournament Director – Dave Lalor

Tournament Referee- Matt O'Connor

Results:

Grade	Winner	Runner Up	3rd
Men's A	Liam Kenny (Leinste	Arthur Gaskin (Leins	Peter Emmanuel (Leinst
Men's B	Francis Power (Muns	Paul Brady (Connac	

All Ireland Schools Finals hosted by Sligo Tennis Club on Saturday April 29th.

Tournament Director – Tony Quigley

Results: U-13 Girls

Winners Scoile Mhuire Gán Small, Carlow (Leinster)

Runners Up St. Michael's Holycross, Thurles (Munster)

U-15 Girls

Winners Ursuline College, Sligo (Connacht)

Runners Up Presentation Secondary School, Thurles (Munster)

U-17 Girls

Winners Rainey Endowed School, Magherafelt. (Ulster)

Runners Up Gaelcholáiste Cheatharlach, Carlow (Leinster)

U-19 Girls

Winners Gaelcholáiste Cheatharlach, Carlow (Leinster)

Runners Up Ursuline College, Sligo (Connacht)

U-13 Boys

Winners Coleraine Academical Institution Coleraine (Ulster)

Runners Up Gaelcholáiste Cheatharlach (Carlow) (Leinster)

U-15 Boys

Winners Methodist College, Belfast (Ulster)

Runners Up St. Brendan's College, Killarney (Munster)

U-17 Boys

Winners Methodist College, Belfast (Ulster)

Runners Up Summerhill College, Sligo (Connacht)

U-19 Boys

Winners Methodist College, Belfast (Ulster)

Runners Up Blackrock College, Dublin (Leinster)

All Ireland Club Championships hosted by Sligo Tennis Club on the weekend of the 12-13^h of May 2006.

Tournament Director: - John Kielty

Sponsors: SL Controls, Brooks Hanley, Ulster Bank & DNG Flanagan Ford.

Results:

Men's Winners: Fitzwilliam Lawn Tennis Club

Leagues –

Unfortunately there were no Connacht leagues, however weekly ladders were held in both Galway and Sligo with up to 70 players in Galway and 35 in Sligo. It is hoped that a Connacht league can be implemented in the new season.

Awards –

Connacht Squash wish to congratulate Michael Hynes upon receiving the Irish Squash Master's person of the year award for his dedicated service of the game in Galway, Connacht and Ireland. The award was truly deserved.

CONNACHT MASTERS' SQUASH 2005 – 2006

The 2005-06 season was a big one for Connacht Masters' Squash with the hosting of the Masters' Interprovincial Championships at Galway Lawn Tennis Club after a three year absence.

The 2005 **CONNACHT VETERANS SQUASH OPEN** tournament was held in Galway Lawn Tennis Club from Friday 25th November to Saturday 26^h November 2005. The tournament was sponsored as usual by an anonymous donor. Jim Hynes took over the running of the tournament ably assisted by Mike Flattery (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: Mike Flattery

Total entries of 44 included four overseas players. The ladies O-40 only attracted three entries and this was a real disappointment. A sign perhaps of the aging of veteran squash players is the fact that there were only eight entries in the O-45A sections, while there were A and B sections in the O-50 and O-60 divisions. 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. This was so even in the first round and highlights the quality of the entry.

After an absence of two years, Alf Kavanagh, the Coventry based Connacht player regained the 0-45 crown by defeating Eugene O'Sullivan in the final. As winner of the O-45 division, Alf was also presented with the Michael Devaney trophy.

Local players won two divisions. . Emer Lalor overcame Anita Mylotte and Jacqueline Kearney to take the ladies section. Pat Hanley finally overcame John O'Connor 3/2 in a very closely fought O-50B final. What a contrast in styles! The overall results are as follows:

Ladies: - Winner - **Emer Lalor** R-up - Anita Mylotte

Division	Winner	Runner-up	Score
Ladies	Emer Lalor	Anita Mylotte	3-1
Men O-45	Alf Kananagh	Eugene O'Sullivan	3-0
Men O-50	Martin O'Meara	Geoff Irwin	3-0
Men O-50 B	Pat Hanley	John O'Connor	3-2
Men O-55	Terry Norman	John Kielty	3-0
Men O-60	Noel Murphy	Jim Bowe	3-0
Men O-60 B	Frank Fahy	Walter Lynch	3-2

Geoff Irwin lost his O-50 title to Martin O'Meara who had an excellent tournament. Terry Norman retained his O-55 title while Noel Murphy retained his O-60 title. Frank Fahy defeated local player Walter Lynch in a closely fought O-60B final to take his first Connacht title.

The Masters' Interprovincial Championships, Connacht 2006.

The 2006 Masters' Interprovincial Championships were held on the Friday and Saturday 10th and 11th March 2006 at Galway Lawn Tennis Club. The tournament was generously sponsored by Joe Higgins. Jim Hynes was tournament director while Shane Cannon was tournament referee.

The Connacht Teams were as follows:

No.	Men's O-45	Men's O-55	Ladies O-40
1	Alf Kavanagh (Coventry)	John Kielty (Sligo)	Norrie O'Grady
2	T.J. Mullins (Galway)	Tom Cantwell (Westwood)	Emer Lalor
3	Dave Lalor (Galway)	Joe Higgins (Galway)	Helen Reapy
4	Tim Bohan (Galway)	Tommy Knight (Ballina)	Ann-Marie Whelan
5	Don Walsh (Galway)	Donal Geraghty (Galway)	Maura Horan
6	Ray Reade (Galway)	Frank Fahey (Ballina)	
7	Pat Hanley (Galway)		
8	Jim Hynes (Galway)		

The ladies team was severely weakened by the withdrawal at short notice of Norrie O'Grady through illness and Helen Reapy through injury. None of the Connacht teams featured in the final placings although the O-55 team played extremely well. Dave Lalor was the outstanding Connacht player in the O-45 division winning two of his three matches.

Connacht players selected for International duty at the Masters' Home Internationals 2006.

Team	Connacht Players
Men O-35	Conor Flanagan
Ladies O-40	Emer Lalor
Men O-40	Brian Mahon
Men O-45	Alf Kavanagh
Ladies O-50	Norrie O'Grady Anita Mylotte
Men O-55	John Kielty
Men O-60	Tom Cantwell

For both Emer Lalor and Conor Flanagan, this is their first international cap.
Congratulations to all.

Michael J. Hynes.
May 2006.

COACHING: -

Colin Whitney was once again head coach in Galway L.T.C. where he was coaching up 35 juniors on a weekly basis. He also coached a number of adults in the club. Colin travelled to a number of smaller clubs in Connacht including Kilconly, Westport and Claremorris, Where he coached and number of juniors and seniors. He also travelled to Sligo on a regular basis where a number of juniors benefited from his experience and skills.

Connacht Squash squad training camps were ran last summer alternating between Galway and Sligo. John Rooney and Colin Whitney ran these squads with 18 of the more advanced players took part. There are plans to do something similar this summer. Colin seems to have committed himself to Galway and Connacht for the foreseeable future and we are privileged to have such an experienced coach operating in the province.

A number of Connacht players have also enrolled for the upcoming Irish Squash level 1 coaching course to be held in August and September.

PLAYERS SELECTED TO REPRESENT IRELAND: -

Senior European Championships, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

John Rooney (Galway) Laura Mylotte (Galway) Aishling Blake (Sligo)

Junior:

U-13 Home Internationals: Conor Caheny (Sligo)

U-15 Home Internationals: Sarah Howley (Sligo)

U-15 European Championships: Sarah Howley (Sligo)

U-17 European Championships: Kevin Davey (Sligo)

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

Ladies O-40 Emer Lalor (Galway)

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

Ladies O-50: - Anita Mylotte (Galway)
Man's O-35: - Conor Flanagan (Galway)
Men's O-40: - Brian Mahon (Sligo)
Men's O-45: - Alf Kavanagh (Coventry)
Men's O-55: - John Kielty (Sligo)
Men's O-60: - Tom Cantwell (Westwood)

Number of Senior Players selected: 3
Number of Junior Players selected: 4
Numbers of Masters Players selected: 8

Bernadette Parker,
Secretary – Connacht Squash.