

## Coaching Report

24<sup>th</sup> October

**Coaching Ireland** – We have been co-ordinating with Coaching Ireland regarding the sign-off of the recent mini-squash coaching group but they have yet to issue the certificates. There is a new person liaising with us and he is getting to grips with the programmes so we hope to have the certificates for the mini-squash programme that ran in Cork for the next board meeting. Apologies to everyone for the delay.

**DCU Squash Coach** – we have been working with the Student Squash Club and we'll be running a coaching course for the students to help new players come on board and provide hopefully an ongoing in-house coach for DCU.

Jenny Dillon is now working as the coach for students one evening per week for next ten weeks. We have agreed to subsidise this initial coaching (€30/week) as the current rate provided by the college is too small once parking / tolls etc. are included (works out at about €10/hour) – we will talk to the college about options going forward.

**Club Coach Course starting in Sutton** – Elvy DaCosta will run a coaching programme for 5 transition year students in Sutton starting next week. The candidates will cover the Club Coach course materials and on completion because of their age they will become “Assistant Coaches” (they must work alongside a fully qualified coach). They will be able to qualify as full coaches once they submit additional proof of coaching when they complete their leaving certificate exams. This might become a popular option for transition year students going forward – and these students will gain invaluable experience working with Eoin.

**Coach of the Year** – an e-mail requesting nominations for this award will go out next week – and the winner will be announced at the Irish Nationals.

### Other items

**Live Streaming** - we have experimented with a few different streaming services since AerTV finished – the hardware/software setup we have will work with pretty much any online streaming services. The free services interrupt the programmes with adverts – and the paid-for services run from about \$99/month. The service can be cancelled and restarted if its not being used. There is an opportunity to advertise on the streaming play and I think this would more than the cover the streaming costs.

**Squash Cycle** – The *SquashLink* – charity Squash Cycle ran very well with 16 clubs in Dublin taking part in the event all providing great hospitality and fun for all involved. Over 40 squash playing cyclists took part celebrating World Squash day as well as the fund raising efforts for the charity. We will alter the format and build on the event next year. Derek Ryan played in every club and finished playing a brief exhibition against a new and talented Trinity Student – from Japan.

Mount Pleasant provided an excellent base for the event and the evenings activities were very well received by all involved. The event raise nearly €7,000 for the charity.

SquashLink are currently working with 4 schools in Ringsend area and will commence an introductory squash skills course with 80 children (aged 10-11) on 2<sup>nd</sup> November in SportsCo. A further 120 children are lined up to follow this shortly afterwards.

*Elvy daCosta, Eoin Ryan* and a team of volunteer coaches from Trinity will assist in the programme which runs four sessions per week for 8 weeks.

Madeline Perry, Derek Ryan, Arthur Gaskin and Brian Byrne among others are active supporters of this Charity. Madeline will nominate SquashLink as her charity during the testimonial in Fitzwilliam.

**SquashLink have asked if we can accommodate any of the following:**

- A special reduced rate for these kids to become signed up members of Irish Squash (ideally it would be free – but perhaps a nominal fee for “Squash Apprentices” of a €1 might be appropriate?). This will boost Irish Squash membership numbers and provide another level of insurance protection.
- Access to Goggles at a reduced rate or even free if we have stock. We need 30-60 pairs.
- Access to the mini-squash kits with rackets if there are any available and any donations of useable squash rackets would also be useful.