



# Connacht Squash Provincial Annual Report

## 2010/2011 Season

### COMPETITION:

The 2010/2011 Season was very active competition wise beginning with **The Connacht Junior Open** hosted by Galway Lawn Tennis Club over the weekend of 25<sup>th</sup>/26<sup>th</sup> September 2010.

**Tournament Director: Edwin Brennan.**

Results:-Full results at [www.connachtsquash.com](http://www.connachtsquash.com)

**Connacht Master's Open** hosted by Galway Lawn Tennis Club over weekend of 25<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> March (re-scheduled). **Sponsor: Anonymous (By Request)**

Tournament Directors: **Jim Hynes and Michael Hynes**

Tournament Referee: **Mike Flattery**

**Results:** *See Attached Masters' Report*

**Irish Junior Open** hosted by Galway Lawn Tennis Club over weekend of 26<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> November 2010.

Tournament Director – **Edwin Brennan**

Full results at [www.irishsquash.com](http://www.irishsquash.com)

**Connacht Senior Open** hosted by Sligo Tennis Club weekend of 26<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> February 2011 (Irish Squash Tour Tournament)

**Tournament Director: Keith Moran**

**Sponsors: SL Controls & Irish Squash**

**Results:** **Men's A**

Winner –Derek Ryan (Leinster)

R-Up – Steve Richardson (Ulster)

**Connacht Senior Closed** hosted by Galway Lawn Tennis Club weekend of 4<sup>th</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> February 2011.

**Tournament Director: Edwin Brennan**

**Results:** **Men's A**

Winner – Niall Rooney (Galway)

R-Up – Rory Gilligan (Galway)

**Irish Junior National Championships** hosted by Galway Lawn Tennis Club weekend of 11<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> February 2011.

**Tournament Director: Edwin Brennan**

Full results at [www.connachtsquash.com](http://www.connachtsquash.com)

**Connacht Junior Closed** hosted by Sligo Tennis Club on the 29<sup>th</sup> January 2011.

**Tournament Director: Tony Quigley      Sponsor: Standard Life**

**Results:**

<b>Boys U11</b>	<b>Girls U11</b>
1st Niall Brennan 2nd Kevin Smith	1st Rachael Quigley 2nd Shauna Heffernan 3rd Eva Finn

<b>Boys U13</b>	<b>Girls U13</b>
1st Sean Power 2nd Mark Trainor 3rd David Molloy	1st Abbey Silke 2nd Ciara Hutton 3rd Maeve Brennan

<b>Boys U15</b>	<b>Girls U15</b>
1st Stephen Quigley	1st Lorraine Mooney
2nd Tomas Gavin	2nd Sarah McLoughlin
3rd David Mannion	3rd Lisa Merrick

**West of Ireland Open** hosted by Galway Lawn Tennis Club over Easter weekend 22<sup>nd</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> April 2011 (**Irish Squash Tour Tournament, PSA & WISPA event**)

**Sponsor: Garavan's Bar, Irish Squash & Irish Sports Council**

Tournament Director – **Edwin Brennan & Andre Davies**

<b>Results:</b>	PSA section	Winner	Olivier Pett	(England)
		Runner-up	Wael Farag	(Egypt)
	Men's A	Winner	Graeme Stewart	(Ulster)
		Runner-Up	Nigel Peyton	(Leinster)

**Leagues –**

The CBE Connacht League was run once again this season. 4 teams in 1 division competed for the championships. Ballina won the division 1. A number of new teams have expressed an interest in competing in next year's league. Connacht Squash in 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 17<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> December 2010 – Connacht Finalists: -

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

## 2010-2011 CONNACHT MASTERS' SQUASH REPORT

The 2010 CONNACHT MASTERS' SQUASH OPEN tournament was scheduled for the weekend of 3<sup>rd</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup> December 2010, a week later than in previous years. However this coincided with the first of the winter blizzards and the tournament had to be postponed due to the inability of players to travel. While this decision received unanimous support from Irish-based players, some overseas players who had already made travel arrangements voiced disapproval. The postponement was a great disappointment to the organisers, as the entry was the largest ever such that they were having difficulties scheduling all the matches! The tournament was re-scheduled for the weekend of 25<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> March 2011, with Jim Hynes as Tournament Director, assisted by Michael Hynes.

**Tournament Organiser/Director:** Jim Hynes

**Tournament Referee:** Mike Flattery.

A total of 45 competitors eventually arrived and competed in the various sections. The ladies' section attracted seven entries, a significant increase on the previous year. There were eight entries in the O-45 age group. The O-50 attracted eleven players, with eight in Section A and three in Section B. There were eight entries in the O-55 section. Three entrants arrived to play in the O-60 section. Eight competitors arrived to play in the O-65 section. 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. The social aspect of the tournament was greatly enhanced by the provision of food on Friday evening, as it meant that players stayed around the club. The tournament dinner was held in the club on Saturday night.

The final of the O-45 was contested by Eddie Murphy and Neil Stone-Wigg, with Stone-Wigg prevailing on a score of 3/2 in an extremely close match. This ensures that yet another new name is added to the plaque on the Michael Devaney Trophy, which is awarded to the winner of the O-45A section. Damien O'Reilly and Peter Cassidy set out to compete in the O-50 final. This was an enthralling encounter until Peter Cassidy was forced to retire through injury to leave Damien O'Reilly the winner. Local man Dave Lalor won all his matches to take the O-50B award. The O-55 final was a closely fought match between Martin McDonnell and Frank Donnelly, with the former winning on a score of 3/1. The O-60 section was unusual in that each player won one match and lost one match. However on both games won and lost and points won and lost, John KIELTY was the winner. In the O-65 final, Ciarán Roche beat Frank Fahey to take his first ever Irish Squash title.

Local player Norrie O'Grady kept a clean sheet by overcoming Ann Gray (3/0) to take the Ladies' title.

During the Tournament Dinner, Jim Hynes was honoured with the '2010-2011 Squash Person of the Year Award' for his outstanding contributions to squash over the years.

The overall results are as follows: (full details at [www.connachtsquash.com](http://www.connachtsquash.com) )

Division	Winner	Runner-up	Score
Ladies	Norrie O'Grady (C)	Ann Gray (M)	3/0
Men O-45A	Neil Stone-Wigg (U)	Eddie Murphy (M)	3/2

Men O-50	Damien O'Reilly (L)	Peter Cassidy (U)	Retired
Men O-50B	Dave Lalor (C)	Dominick Egan (C)	3/0
Men O-55	Martin McDonnell (M)	Frank Kavanagh (L)	3/1
Men O-60	John Kielty (C)	Seamus Daly (L)	3/1
Men O65	Ciarán Roach (L)	Frank Fahy (C)	3/0

## The Masters' Interprovincial Championships, Westwood 2011

The 2010 - 2011 Masters' Interprovincial Championships were held in Westwood this year and took place on Friday and Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> April 2011. Connacht did not field a ladies team.

The Connacht Teams were as follows:

No.	Men's O-45	Men's O-55
1	Brian Mahon	Tom Cantwell
2	Dave Lalor	Frank Fahey
3	Aodán Ó Colmáin	Alf Kavanagh
4	Declan Stoute	John Kielty
5	Gerry Fahy	Joe Flaherty
6	Peter Murphy	Jim Hynes
7	Jim Hynes	Gerry Fahy

## Masters' Interprovincial Championships 2010-2011

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

## Other achievements in Masters' Squash by Connacht Players in 2010-2011

### Irish Senior Nationals

Helen Reapy won the Ladies 0-35 section to take her first National Title.

### Irish Squash Masters' Open 2011 (11 – 13 March 2011)

In the Ladies' O-50 section, Norrie O'Grady once again overcame Christine McIlroy to claim her 14<sup>th</sup> National Title. We offer her our sincere congratulations.

Anita Mylotte won the Ladies' O-60 Section.

Tom Cantwell won the Men's O-65 section.

Frank Fahey was the runner-up in the Men's O-65 section.

## **The Senator Windows Munster Masters' Open 2011 (January 21, 22)**

Helen Reapy was runner-up in the Ladies' section.

### **Connacht Masters' Players selected for International duty:**

O-35 Women Helen Reapy  
O-45 Men Brian Mahon  
O-60 Men John Kielty  
O-65 Men Tom Cantwell, Frank Fahey.

**Michael J. Hynes.**

**April 2011**

### **COACHING: -**

Edwin Brennan assumed the role of club coach in Galway LTC this season after Paul Bell returned to the UK early in the season. As well as coaching the junior players of Galway LTC, Edwin offered squash in the local schools, thanks to important funding from Irish Squash and the Irish Sport Council, which was very popular with over 500 kids trying squash over the season. The development programme is working very well and with added funding it could have a great impact on squash in the province for years to come. Helen Reapy also continued her fantastic work in Claremorris squash club. With only 1 court space is always limited however the number of players is increasing and the standard is improving all the time.

A level 1 coaching course was held in Galway LTC this season and 11 newly qualified coaches emerged from the course.

### **PLAYERS SELECTED TO REPRESENT IRELAND: -**

**Senior European Championships** Aisling Blake (Sligo)  
**Finland**

**Senior Womens World Championships** Aisling Blake (Sligo)  
**New Zealand** Laura Mylotte (Galway)

#### **Junior: –**

U-13 Home Internationals Adam Fitzgerald (Galway)  
U-15 Home Internationals Fiona Power (Galway)  
U-15 Home Internationals Roisin O'Shea (Galway)  
U-15 Home Internationals Stephen Quigley (Sligo)  
U-15 European Championships Fiona Power (Galway)

U-19 European Championships Conor O'Shea (Galway)  
U-19 European Championships Jennifer Hegarty (Galway)

#### **Master's Home Internationals: -**

Ladies O-35: - Helen Reapy (Claremorris)  
Men's O-45: - Brian Mahon (Ballina)  
Men's O-60: - John Kielty (Sligo)

Men's O-65: - Tom Cantwell (Westwood)

Men's O-65: - Frank Fahy (Ballina)

Senior Players selected: 3

Junior Players selected: 7

Masters Players selected: 5

***Edwin Brennan***

President, Connacht Squash 2010-2011.