

## **Junior Season 2014-2015**

### **Squads**

This last season has been particularly successful for the East Juniors. 2 East players were accepted into the National Junior Academy while an additional 2 players were accepted into the Talent Squad:

Carrie Hallam who was a previous Academy member

Georgia Adderley who was accepted for her 1<sup>st</sup> season as an academy member

James Riches & Angus MacPherson were accepted for their 1<sup>st</sup> seasons as a Talent Squad member

The weekly East Squads have continued to be provided for 28 young players with 9 new players being introduced this season. A continued thank you to Heriot Watt University for providing training facilities.

### **Events**

The Big Shot Timed Events, Junior Leagues and Local Graded Events have continued to be successful. They all allow local players to be involved in different levels of competition without having to commit to a whole weekend. A big Thank You to Colinton, Grange, Abercorn, Edinburgh Sports Club, Watsonians and Waverley for their continued support of all these events.

### **Junior Nationals**

There were some notable performances in this years Scottish Junior Nationals.

#### **Boys U13**

Hugo MacPherson and Thomas Clark finished 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> respectively in their 1<sup>st</sup> season in the U13 age group

#### **Boys U17**

Angus MacPherson finished 3<sup>rd</sup>

#### **Girls U15**

Georgia Adderley won her 1<sup>st</sup> National Title

#### **Girls U19**

Carrie Hallam finished 3<sup>rd</sup> with her 1<sup>st</sup> win over Claire Gadsby and a narrow 3-2 loss to the eventual Champion

### **Representative**

Congratulations to Georgia Adderley for being selected for the U15 5 Nations and European team. Georgia performed well in both events and gained a win over Englands No 1. Georgia helped the U15 team finish in 4<sup>th</sup> position at the European event (out of 18 entries).

Congratulations to Carrie Hallam for securing a place in the Youth Commonwealth Games. This is a once in a life time opportunity to play in this event as squash is not always part of the Games. Squash were only allowed 2 places at the event. The event takes place later this year.

### **Inter Regionals**

We entered teams in all age groups except U11. All teams too home a medal with 2 teams ending as Champions.

#### **U13 Team – 3<sup>rd</sup> Place**

Hugo MacPherson, Thomas Clark, Brodie Young, Steven Hill, Jennifer Riches & Catherine Edwards  
All but 1 members of this team are eligible for the same age group next season

#### **U15 Team – Champion**

James Riches, Andrew Hill, David Taylor, David Riches, Georgia Adderley

#### **U17 – R/Up**

Mattie McKenzie, James Taylor, Calum Harvey, Catherine Boyd

#### **U19 - Champion**

Angus MacPherson, Carrie Hallam, Pietro Gagliardini, Andrew Boyd, Euan Reed

Congratulations to all players involved in an successful event. Thanks to the parents who helped out and thank you to Colinton for running another successful Inter Regional Event

#### **East B Event**

This year we moved the event from mid-November to August as many people had complained about the event clashing with the Scottish Rugby Autumn tests.

The event was held at Grange after the addition of their 2 new courts this allowed them to have enough courts to host this event for the first time. The club was very hospitable and the event ran smoothly.

The event will remain in August for this coming season.

#### **East Performance Squad Coach**

It is with great sadness that I have recently announced that I will be stepping down as Performance Coach. I can no longer commit my time to the squads and to give the players the time and attention that they deserve. I have held this position for the last 8 years and have very much enjoyed my time. I began with a 9 year old Carrie Hallam telling me that she was not a very competitive person so didn't like to play games and that she couldn't volley or play backhand. It is very rewarding to know that she has gone on to secure numerous National Titles and Represent Scotland at various events most notably her recent Youth Commonwealth Games selection. I have met a lot of great kids and very supportive parents over the years. I have been very lucky that all the parents have been supportive of both myself and the parents as in many other regionals coaches have to deal with over bearing & pushy parents!

Kevin Moran will be taking over as Performance Coach however I intend to still be involved in other Junior events in the East to aid with Development.

#### **Season 2015 – 2016**

All current Junior activities will be continuing in the coming season. I have introduced a Grand Prix points system for the Big Shots and Local Graded Events. This takes a players best results over 3 or 4 tournaments and then gives them a ranking alongside other players. At the end of the season there will be a final league weekend where players who top the Grand Prix Rankings will receive prizes.

My aim (as it is every year) is to try and keep the East Junior Website more up to date. This will hopefully help to encourage more players to get involved in the various events.