

2010 North East Junior U13 & U17 Open Badminton Tournament
Beach Leisure Centre, Aberdeen
27th & 28th March 2010

The Aberdeen Beach Leisure Centre was the venue for the recent North East Junior Open badminton tournament. There were 2 age groups contested at this Scottish ranking event, U13 and U17. Players from all over Scotland travelled to compete and the standard in both events was very high. There were a large number of local entries in both categories with many local players, particularly in the U13 age group progressing to quarter final stages or above. In the U13 boy's singles 5 of the 8 quarter finalists were local, Matthew Duguid, Jack Murray, Rory Adamson, Stuart Holley and Mark Leith, all Stonehaven, were all well deserved quarter finalists. Unfortunately only Mark made it through to the semi finals and after disposing of doubles partner, Hamish Gorn, met close rival Andrew Thomson, Lanarkshire, in the final. Mark was never really threatened and despite a spirited fight back from Andrew in the second game Mark took the title, 21 – 11, 21 – 19, the only North East main event winner of the whole tournament. In the U13 girls singles event, despite all the local players losing their first round matches, they went on to provide great entertainment in the consolation event, Kiera Dalton, Eilidh Craigen, Becky Flaherty and Holly Thomson, competing in the semi finals. Keira and Becky met in the final after 2 hard fought matches; Becky taking the honours in a tense 3 set final, 23 – 25, 21 – 12, 21-17. The U13 doubles events saw local pairs Rory Adamson and Jack Murray, and Matthew Duguid and Stuart Holley, progress to the semi final, where they were both unlucky to lose out to Mark Leith and Hamish Gorn and Struan Ross and Andrew Thomson. Ross and Thomson won the final in another close affair, 21 -18, 30 - 28. In the girls doubles Keira Dalton and Beck Flaherty we unlucky to lose out to 2nd seeds Holly Newall and Olivia Quinn in the quarter finals and the other local interest, Eilidh Craigen and Holly Thomson faired similar fortunes in the semi final against the same pair. In the U17 boys event Scott Murray was the only local player to survive the first round of the main event and was desperately unlucky not to progress to the quarter finals, losing out to Glasgow School of Sports Calvin Percival in 3 sets. The consolation event, like the U13 girls was an all Stonehaven semi final with Jamie Duncan losing to Sean Leith, 21 – 23, 21 – 10, 21 – 19 and Douglas Adamson losing to Craig Buchanan 21 - 3, 19 – 21, 21 – 11. The final was won by Craig, 24 – 22, 21 – 16, all three matches, both semis and the final, most entertaining. Rachel MacLeod was the only North East girl in the U17 singles event and was unfortunate to meet 4th seed, Hannah Laing, in the quarter finals, losing the match 21 – 17, 21 – 18. She did however make it all the way to the final of the consolation event, only losing after a nail biting 3 set match, 22 – 20, 15 – 21, 21 – 19. The U17 boy's doubles event featured 4 local boys in the quarter finals, Craig Buchanan and Scott Murray, Sean Dalton and Steven Mann (Glasgow School of Sport) and Sean Leith and Jordan Gilvear (Glasgow School of Sport). Sean Leith (U14) was the only survivor making it through to the semi final where they then lost out to top seeds Usman Asif and Peter Walker, 21 -13, 21 – 10. In the U17 girls doubles Rachel MacLeod teamed up with Aberdeen's Sharon Ngu and made it to the semi final where they also lost to top seeds, Hannah Laing and Megan Richardson, 21 – 16, 22 – 20. In the mixed event, Craig Buchanan, who teamed up on the day with Kirsten Brierley, made the best progress losing out in the quarter finals to 2nd seeds, Stewart Ferns and Caitlin Gilmour in a superb 3 set match, 21 – 14, 17 – 21, 21 – 19. All in all a superb tournament with some of the nations best players entertaining the many spectators and some great performance from many local athletes.



U13 Boys singles : R/U Andrew Thomson, winner Mark Leith