



# Connacht Squash Provincial Annual Report

## 2008/2009 Season

### COMPETITION:

The 2008/2009 Season was very active competition wise beginning with **The Connacht Junior Open** hosted by Galway Lawn Tennis Club over the weekend of 26th/28th September 2008.

**Tournament Director: Edwin Brennan.**

Results:-

<b>Boys U11</b>	11 Winner Philip McSweeney	Rup Daniel Pender.
<b>Girls U11</b>	11 Winner Aoife Turley	Rup Stephaine Ryan.
<b>Boys U13</b>	13 Winner Michael Craig	Rup Ciarán Maher and Plate winner Stephen Lavin.
<b>Girls U13</b>	Winner Labhoise Dunbar	Rup <b>Saoirse McGrath.</b>
<b>Boys U15</b>	Winner Daniel Harkin	Rup <b>Alan Quigley</b> and Plate winner Ryan McHale.
<b>Girls U15</b>	Winner <b>Jennifer Hegarty</b>	Rup Eva McMillan and Plate winner Orna Murray.
<b>Boys U17</b>	Winner Ben Craig	Rup Joey Roberts and Plate winner Darragh Murray.
<b>Girls U17</b>	Winner Niamh O'Hare	Rup Gabriella McMillan and Plate winner <b>Claire Hanley.</b>
<b>Boys U19</b>	Winner John Roberts	Rup Theodore Anderson and Plate winner David Tighe.
<b>Girls U19</b>	Winner Sarah Corcoran	Rup Sarah Murphy

**Connacht Master's Open** hosted by Galway Lawn Tennis Club over weekend of 21<sup>st</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2008. **Sponsor: Anonymous** (*By Request*)

Tournament Director: **Jim Hynes and Michael Hynes**

Tournament Referee: **Mike Flattery**

**Results:** *See Attached Veteran's Report*

**Irish Junior Open** hosted by Galway Lawn Tennis Club over weekend of 28<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> November 2009.

Tournament Director – **Edwin Brennan**      Tournament Referee – **Brian Williams**

Results:

**Sligo Junior Open** hosted by Sligo Tennis Club on 10<sup>th</sup> January 2009.

Sponsor: **Permanent TSB**      Tournament Director: **Tony Quigley**

**Results:**

**Sligo Junior Open**

	Boys U11	Girls U11
1st	Donal o'Shea	Casey Luther
2ns	Tomas Power	Abbey Silke
3rd		Rachel Gallagher
4th		Rachael Quigley
	Boys u13	Boys u13 Novice
1st	Stephen Quigley	Declan Sarawati
2nd	Ryan Luther	David Mannion
3rd	Tomas Donovan	Marc Dalton
	Boys u15	Girls U15
1st	Conor Caheny	Fiona Power
2nd	Ciaran Maher	Rebecca McDermott
3rd	Dara gaule	Niamh O'Keeffe
4th	Chris Cawley	Megan McDonald
	Boys U17	Girls U17
1st	Alan Quigley	Saoirse McGrath
2nd	Eric Dalton	Claire Hanley
3rd	Michael Meudic	Louise Fahy

**Connacht Senior Open** hosted by Sligo Tennis Club weekend of 20<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2009 (Irish Squash Tour Tournament)

**Tournament Director: Keith Moran**

**Sponsors: SL Controls & Irish Squash**

**Results: Men's A**

Winner –Derek Ryan (Leinster)

R-Up – **Niall Rooney (Connacht)**

**Connacht Senior Closed** hosted by Galway Lawn Tennis Club weekend of 6<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> February 2009.

**Tournament Director: Edwin Brennan**

**Results: Men's A**

Winner – Niall Rooney (Galway)

R-Up – Rory Gilligan (Galway)

**Connacht Junior Closed** hosted by Sligo Tennis Club weekend of 7<sup>th</sup> March 2009.

**Tournament Director: Tony Quigley**

**Sponsor: Standard Life**

**Results:**

Boys u11  
1st Donal o'Shea  
2nd Tomas Power  
3rd David Molloy  
4th Robert Finnerty

Girls U11  
Rachael Quigley  
Shauna Heffernan

Boys u13  
1st Stephen Quigley  
2nd Sean Power  
3rd David Mannion  
Plate : William Finnerty

Girls U13  
Roisin O'Shea  
Abbey Silke  
Rachel Gallagher  
Maeve Brennan

Girls u13 Senior  
1st Fiona Power

Boys u15  
1st Tomas Donovan  
2nd Chris Cawley  
3rd Michael Hannon

Boys U17  
1st Conor O'Shea  
2nd Alan Quigley  
3rd Kevin MGlade

**West of Ireland Open** hosted by Galway Lawn Tennis Club over Easter weekend  
10<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> April 2009 (**Irish Squash Tour Tournament and PSA event**)  
**Sponsor: Garavan's Bar, Irish Squash & Irish Sports Council**

Tournament Director – **Edwin Brennan**      Tournament Referee- **Lee Healy**

<b>Results:</b>	PSA section	<b>Winner</b>	Simon Rosner	(Germany)
		Runner-up	Gilly Lane	(USA)
	Men's A	Winner	<b>John Rooney</b>	<b>(Connacht)</b>
		Runner-Up	Derek Ryan	(Leinster)
	Ladies	Winner	<b>Aisling Blake</b>	<b>(Connacht)</b>
		Runner-Up	Tanya Owens	(Ulster)

### Leagues –

The CBE Connacht League was run once again this season. 6 teams in 2 divisions competed for the championships. Galway L.T.C. won the division 1 while Ballinrobe won the second division. A number of new teams have expressed an interest in competing in next year's league. Connacht Squash is 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 19<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> December 2008 – Connacht Finalists: -

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

## 2008-2009 CONNACHT MASTERS' SQUASH

The 2008 **CONNACHT MASTERS' SQUASH OPEN** tournament was held in Galway Lawn Tennis Club from Friday 21<sup>st</sup> November to Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2008. The tournament was sponsored as usual by an anonymous donor. As Jim Hynes was in hospital getting a replacement hip, Michael Hynes took on the task of running the tournament ably assisted by Mike Flattery (tournament referee), and other members of the squash committee of Galway Lawn Tennis Club.

**Tournament Organiser/Director:** Michael Hynes

**Tournament Referee:** Mike Flattery

Total entries of 48 was down on the previous year but as usual included a good number of overseas players with Coventry well represented. Sadly, the ladies section only attracted an entry of four. . There were twelve entries in the O45 age group and these were divided into A and B sections with eight in Section A and four in Section B. The O50 attracted eight players. There were eight entries in the O55A section with four in the O55B. The O60 section had eight entries with four entries in the O65 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.

Due to injury, Eddie Murphy was unable to enter and seek to retain his O45 title. In the final Brian O'Sullivan beat Joe Ruddy 3/1 in an excellent final. 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 O45A section. Tim Bohan beat all the other entries in the O45B section to take the title. The O50 final was an all Munster affair with Martin McDonnell prevailing over Neil O'Sullivan (3/0). The O55 final was between Alf Kavanagh and Jack Allen. Unfortunately Jack incurred an injury during the match and was forced to retire from what was becoming an enthralling contest. This left Alf Kavanagh to retain the Connacht Masters' O55 title. Another Connacht exile, John Dalton, took the O55B title. Seamus Daly overcame Brendan Barry to take the O60 title. In the O65 section, Frank Fahy prevailed over the opposition to take the title.

Local players player Norrie O'Grady kept a clean sheet by overcoming Helen Reapy, Linda Garvin and Maura Horan to take the Ladies title.

The overall results are as follows:

<b>Division</b>	<b>Winner</b>	<b>Runner-up</b>	<b>Score</b>
Ladies	Norrie O'Grady (C)	Helen Reapy (C)	3/0
Men O45A	Brian O'Sullivan (M)	Joe Ruddy (L)	3/1
Men O45B	Tim Bohan (C)	Joe Jackson (L)	3/0
Men O50	Martin McDonnell (M)	Neil O'Sullivan (M)	3/0
Men O55	Alf Kavanagh (C)	Jack Allen (U)	Retd
Men O55B	John Dalton (C)	Donal Geraghty (C)	3/0

Men O60	Seamus Daly (L)	Brendan Barry (L)	3/0
Men O65	Frank Fahy (C)	Bertie Blair (U)	3/2

### **The Masters' Interprovincial Championships, Cork 2009**

The 2008 - 2009 Masters' Interprovincial Championships were held in Cork this year and took place on Friday and Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> April 2009. 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	Alf Kavanagh
2	Tim Bohan	John Kielty
3	Gerry Fahy	John Dalton
4	Declan Stout	Tommy Knight
5	Aidan Power	Frank Fahy
6	Mike Flattery	

### **Masters' Interprovincial Championships 2008-2009**

Event	Winners	Runners-Up
Men's O45	Munster	Ulster
Men's O55	Leinster	Ulster
Ladies' O40	Munster	Ulster

### **Other achievements in Masters' Squash by Connacht Players in 2008-2009**

#### **Fitzwilliam Irish Squash Masters' Championship 2009 (13 – 15 Feb 2009)**

In the Women's O50 section, Norrie O'Grady overcame Anne Costello to claim yet another national title. We offer her our sincere congratulations.

#### **Senator Windows Munster Masters' Open (17, 18 Jan 2009)**

Alf Kavanagh beat Bill Todd to take the O55 title while John Kielty overcame Noel Murphy to take the O60 title.

#### **Ulster Masters' Open (30 Jan – 1 Feb 2009)**

John Kielty was runner-up in the Men's O60 section.

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

O40 Women Helen Reapy

O50 Women Norrie O'Grady  
O45 Men Brian Mahon  
O55 Men Alf Kavanagh  
O60 Men John Kielty and Tom Cantwell  
O-60 Men Frank Fahy

**Michael J. Hynes.**

May 2009

### **COACHING: -**

Kevin Whitney assumed the role of Squash coach this season in Galway LTC. He was responsible for overseeing the junior coaching in the club. The numbers in Galway LTC have grown steadily and are now quite healthy with many promising juniors now playing. However, Kevin has now returned to the UK and Galway LTC hope to have a new coach in place for the start of the coming season.

In the early part of the season Paddy Quinn did some coaching with the juniors however he moved away due to work commitments. Sligo would really benefit from the input of a professional coach.

Claremorris Squash Club has experienced a revival of the past season. Helen Reapy has put in a huge amount of effort into coaching juniors and numbers are steadily increasing.

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

#### **Senior European Championships** **Malmö, Sweden**

John Rooney (Galway)  
Niall Rooney (Galway)  
Aisling Blake (Sligo)

#### **Senior Ladies World Championships** **Cairo, Egypt**

Aisling Blake (Sligo)

#### **Junior: -**

U-13 Home Internationals

Fiona Power (Galway)  
Roisin O'Shea (Galway)  
Stephen Quigley (Sligo)

U-17 European Championships

Claire Hanley (Galway)

U-17 European Championships

Conor O'Shea (Galway)

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

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

Ladies O-40: - Helen Reapy (Claremorris)

Men's O-45: - Brian Mahon (Ballina)

Men's O-55: - Alf Kavanagh (Coventry)

Men's O-60: - John Kielty (Sligo)  
Men's O-60: - Tom Cantwell (Westwood)  
Men's O-65: - Frank Fahy (Ballina)

Senior Players selected: 4  
Junior Players selected: 5  
Masters Players selected: 7

***Edwin Brennan***

President, Connacht Squash.