

Leinster Youth Activities Report 2016/2017 Season

2016/2017 was once again a smashing season for Leinster Juvenile Badminton and the Youth Activity Committee (YAC's).

YAC's aim to promote badminton for all ages and standards across the Province. The entries to the B Events and the Leinster Open/Closed events were in line with those of the past Season and there have been several new clubs introduced into the Dublin Juvenile league. The Tournaments were extremely well attended with players from all corners of the Province and Island.

The YACs have now an Under 11 Squad and next season we will continue to try new formats to ensure the path for players from Under 11 to Under 17 is a successful one. The Westside Tournament goes from strength to strength thanks to the efforts of the Kildare County Association.

Team Events were all very successful this season:

- Leinster travelled to the Lothian, Scotland for the Under 13 Celtic Challenge. The Leinster Team retained the title for the 4th year in a row. This was an impressive win, taking into consideration the very young age of the team. A big thank you to the 2 coaches, Owen Marron & Kirsty Kelly and manager Jean Kelly.
- Leinster hosted the Under 15 Celtic Challenge. Leinster again, retained the title in what was a very competitive competition. A huge thanks to the YACs committee and friends for all their help in making the Tournament very memorable. "Leinster were definitely the hosts with the most" Coaches for the Team were Niall Gannon, Sian Williams and Pat Marron.
- Leinster once again made a clean sweep at the Juvenile Inter Provincials taking all 3 of the underage titles.
- The Nottingham Team this year exceeded all expectations taking the 6th spot from a field of 34 Teams. The coaches Pat Marron, Sian Williams & Niall Gannon were so proud of the Team. This is the best placing in a long while for Leinster in Nottingham. A huge thank you goes to my background staff, especially Ita Marron.
- The Underage Inter-Counties were very successful with entries in all age groups up from last season. It was great to see teams from Carlow & Wicklow taking part in the Under 13's.

Following on from the Success of the Leinster Inter County's, Leinster again took all 4 titles at the Badminton Ireland Inter County Competition. Kildare County taking the Under 11 & Under 15 and Dublin County taking the Under 13 & Under 17.

- Dublin School's League which was run by Lynn McCrave had approximately 40 schools with 215 teams over the 3 divisions. In the u19s division alone, there was 382 matches (2292 games).

The successful Dublin teams competed in the Leinster Finals and the winners competed in the All Irelands where some successfully took Gold.

The Dublin Juvenile League run by Muriel Moles goes from strength to strength with 2 new clubs, now 15 clubs in total with 88 teams.

Congratulations must go to all the Leinster Players who represented Ireland in International Competitions.

The report is only a brief outline of the Season 2016 to 2017. My thanks go to Niall Gannon and Joe Byrne who continually update the Leinster Youth Badminton Facebook page, keeping us all updated with reports & Photos.

I would like to thank the entire Youth Activity Committee and all who played their part in making Juvenile Badminton possible this season. These volunteers give their time and expertise freely and consistently. The coaches, managers, administrators, umpires, referees, parents and the players all remain fully committed to Leinster Badminton and long may it continue.

Finally, I would like to thank the Executive Committee for their continued support and investment in Juvenile Badminton in the Province. The future of Leinster Badminton is in the Youth.