

Leinster Youth Activities Report 2015/2016 Season

2015/2016 has been 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. The entries to the B Events and the Leinster Open/Closed events were up from last Season. The Tournaments were extremely well attended with players from all corners of the Island. We have tried to introduce an Under 9 event but it had to be cancelled this season due to very small numbers. YAC's will continue their efforts to break new ground. The Westside Tournament goes from strength to strength thanks to the efforts of the Kildare County Association.

Team Events were very successful this season:

- Leinster travelled to the Alpha BC, Lisburn for the Under 13 Celtic Challenge. The Leinster Team retained the title for the 3rd year in a row.
- Leinster travelled to Lothian, Scotland for the Under 15 Celtic Challenge. Leinster again retained the title in a very competitive last match v Lothian winning 8 games to 7.
- Leinster made a clean sweep at the Juvenile Inter Provincials taking all 3 titles.
- The Nottingham Team including European Gold medallist Nhat Nguyen and Bronze medallist Paul Reynolds came in the top 10 in the UK, very commendable. This bodes very well for the future of Leinster Juvenile Badminton.
- The Underage Inter Counties were very successful with entries in all age groups up from last season.
- Leinster School's finals had approximately 90 teams over the 3 divisions and age groups, in total 30 schools involved.

Congratulations must go to all the Leinster Players who represented Ireland in International Competitions. We are very proud of Nhat and Paul who took the Gold Medal and Bronze Medal respectively at the European Under 17 event. Leinster Badminton presented the boys with awards. Pat Marron, Head of Leinster Juvenile Coaching made the presentation in a lovely ceremony at the BPL in Whitehall Road. Pat reiterated the importance of the Badminton Club, the County, the Province and the Country who all play a vital role in the development of the player.

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.

David Hogan
YAC Chairman