DORSET JUNIOR SQUASH REPORT 2021-22

Another year of hard work on and off the squash court from all our coaches.

1. **Junior County Closed** saw 50 juniors compete. A good number post covid. However lots of problems were encountered signing up via Club Locker which didn't help numbers. Thanks to our sponsors Slades Estate Agents and Karakal. £413.30 profit.
2. **The End of Season tournament** was held at West Hants with 32 players playing. A presentation was held at the end of the afternoon and many families stayed for food.
3. **County training** – Simon Jennings headed up 2 county training sessions at Bryanston (November and January). 19 players attended the first one and 15 for the second one. Coaches were Simon, Sarah Spacey, Rich Davies, Samara Stewart and Ellis Jennings.
4. **Junior tournaments** were held at 2RM, West Hants, Bournemouth Squash Club and Canford.
5. **Squash in Schools** programme continues to be a success at West Hants with Talbot House and Talbot Primary attending in the autumn and spring terms Approx 10 children now playing regularly. CCW ran 4 sessions at 2RM for The Priory School and saw 120 children, 6 of whom are now playing regularly. We attempted running sessions with Glenmoor Girls but with only 4 attending it wasn't viable to run the sessions.
6. **Junior Inter County** – BU15 was the only junior team this season, playing at East Glos. Simon Jennings attended with the boys. A tough day but the boys performed well, sadly not qualifying for the finals.
7. **Squash Festivals** held at West Hants and Ferndown, with 101 and 180 children having a go at squash. We attempted to run a festival in the north of the county at Port Regis but we had no response or support from Active Dorset and consequently no interest from the local schools.
8. **Log books** continue to be a success with our juniors. The younger ones especially are very motivated by them.
9. **Squash Stars** – Samara Stewart has run with the England Squash initiative actively encouraging all clubs to participate. New players pay £42 for 6 coaching sessions and a kit bag which contains a racket, ball, t-shirt and goggles. Clubs were asked to provide the courts for free. Bournemouth Squash Club, The Hamworthy Club and Canford signed up for the first course in June and David Lloyd Ringwood and 2RM will join in with the September course.
10. **Easter and summer squash camps** were held at Bournemouth Squash Club, West Hants, The Hamworthy Club and 2 Riversmeet and continue to be a good way of recruiting new players. Samara Stewart has linked in Bournemouth University to add squash as an activity at their sports camps during the school holidays at Chapel Gate. They are trialling this over the summer.
11. **Junior Squash Player Pathway** was completed and copies set to all clubs. This document is aimed to help parents understand the journey their children can take and how to achieve it. Thanks to Mike Ypes for his time producing this document.
12. **Website and social media** continue to be updated to promote our activities.
13. **Several home and away fixtures** were organised against 5 Rivers, Salisbury, Bryanston and Clayesmore. Our juniors love playing matches! Always a great team spirit.
14. **Amy Campbell-Wynter** finished third in the U17 Nationals.
15. **South West Aspire** – 6 juniors attended the Aspire training and 3 were selected to play in the SW Aspire championships. We are endeavouring to improve our working relationship with the Aspire team.
16. **20 pairs of goggles** purchased for sharing around the county.

Once again a big thank you goes out to ALL our coaches, old and new, who continue to encourage juniors to participate and enjoy playing squash. I think we have more juniors than ever playing and we will endeavour to keep increase numbers over the coming season. We continue to mentor our younger coaches encouraging them to get more involved with all our junior programmes.

Bev Vatcher
Junior Development Officer
July 2022