

# Leinster Squash Report for 2023 - 2024



The focus of Leinster Squash this season was to give as many players in our clubs the opportunity to get all players in the province to get out and play. The following report provides a review of this season and looks forward to the next.

## This Season in Review

### The “Leinster Games Promotion Officer” Appointed

Leinster Squash last year set out a plan to drive participation numbers. As part of this we designed a new role called the “Games Promotion Officer”. In partnership with Irish Squash we recruited in the market, and appointed Paul Conroy. This role is a part time position, fully funded by Leinster Squash and dedicated to promotion and operation of Leinster competitions throughout the season.

The appointment of this role should be seen as a further evolution of the role that was sustained by Mick Collins in the past years reflecting the increased expectations and demand to market and operate a wider variety of events within and beyond the traditional season. On behalf of Leinster Squash I would like to thank Mick for all his time and effort over the last few years in this regard.

### Leinster Squash Tournaments

#### Leinster Senior Open

- <https://www.sportyhq.com/tournament/view/Leinster-Senior-Open-2024-TOUR-5>
- Ran in Fitzwilliam on 13/14th Jan
- 43 Entries across Mens A/B/C and Womens A

Draw	1st Place	2nd Place	3rd Place
Mens A	Oisin Logan	Conor O'Hare	Sean Conroy
Mens B	David Ryan	Conal Jackson	Ismail Wahid
Mens C	David Connolly	Siddanth Seth	James Jameson

<b>Womens A</b>	Breanne Flynn	Emlia Korhonen	Hannah McGugan
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### Leinster Junior Open

- [Leinster Junior Open 2024](#)
- Ran in Sutton LTC
- 113 Entries

Draw	1st Place	Runner/Up
<b>Boys U11</b>	Eoin O'Brien	Ridit Thapar
<b>Girls U11</b>	Aurora McDonnell	Caoimhe English
<b>Boys U13</b>	Michael Lai	Jack Clery
<b>Girls U13</b>	Rebecca Dayt	Zoe Nyhan
<b>Boys U15</b>	John Luke Day	Adam Power
<b>Girls U15</b>	Rebecca Jackson	Laya Sabry
<b>Boys U17</b>	Conal Jackson	Christian Dromgoole
<b>Girls U17</b>	Shriya Drawid	Zoe Yeomans
<b>Boys U19</b>	Danny Lynch	Tristan Snodgrass
<b>Girls U19</b>	Sara Sabry	Isabelle Kelly

### Leinster Junior Closed

- [Leinster Junior Closed](#)
- Ran in Sutton LTC - January the 6th & 7th 2024
- 52 Entries

Draw	1st Place	Runner/Up
<b>Boys U11</b>	Oisin Murphy	Eoin O'Brien
<b>Girls U11</b>	Aisking Mac Canna	Faye Ring
<b>Boys U13</b>	John Quigley	Alec Gissing
<b>Girls U13</b>	Zoe Nyhan	Aurora McDonnell
<b>Boys U15</b>	Samuel Hann	Danny Jones
<b>Girls U15</b>	Lucy Walsh	Rebecca Jackson
<b>Boys U17</b>	Tyler Dromgoole	Aaron Cullen

<b>Girls U17</b>	Isabel Fallon	Riley Slade
<b>Boys U19</b>	Christian Dromgoole	Frank O'Flynn
<b>Girls U19</b>	Ella Walsh	Isabelle Kelly

### Leinster Senior Closed

- Run as on one-day on 25th Feb in LCC Squash Club
- <https://www.sportyhq.com/tournament/view/Leinster-Senior-Closed-2024>
- 22 Entries across 4 sections (Mens A/B/C and Womens A)

Draw	Winner	Runner/Up
Mens A	James Judge	Gerry Callanan
Mens B	Derryk Bartlett	Enrique Pelayo
Mens C	John Coleman	Phillipe Laurjssen
Womens A	Melissa Cosgrove	Veronica Brogan

### Leinster Squash League

- All leagues completed
- 9 Divisions - 371 players
- [Leinster Leagues](#) Results
- Division Winners were as follows:

Division	Winning Club	Teams
Mens Premier	Sutton	6
Mens Division 1	Dublin University	8
Mens Division 2/3	Sutton	7
Mens Division 4/5	LCC Squash	8
Mens Division 6	Sutton	8
Womens Premier	Sutton	4
Womens Division 1	Old Belvedere	5
Veterans League	West Wood	3
Saturday League	LCC Squash	4

***The League is an important part of the season, and would not be effective without the engagement of the clubs and the work of Team captains. So a very big thanks to those who take that work on behalf of their teams. It is much appreciated.***

**Leinster Squash League Cup**

- This year, the Cup competitions hosted on Sportyhq for the 1st time with all results recorded
- <https://www.sportyhq.com/tournament/view/Leinster-League-Cups-2024>
- 5 of the 7 cups played this year were won by the league winners. There was a suggestion received from Sutton B team that the league winners would play up a level in the cup competitions to give them an opportunity to play at a higher level and spread out the silverware amongst more clubs.

Cup Name	Winner	Runner Up
Mens Championship	Sutton	Carlow
Gray Cup (Div 1)	Dublin University	Mount Pleasant
Mens Div 2/3	Sutton	West Wood
Mens Div 4/5	Mount Pleasant	Tullamore
Mens Div 6	Sutton	Fitzwilliam
Ivy Hadden Trophy	Sutton	Mount Pleasant
Womens Div 1	Dublin University	Mount Pleasant

**Club Tournaments & One Day Series.**

We saw many clubs in Leinster host a variety of tournaments for masters, seniors and juniors. This was really encouraging and these events are part of the life blood of the sport in the province.

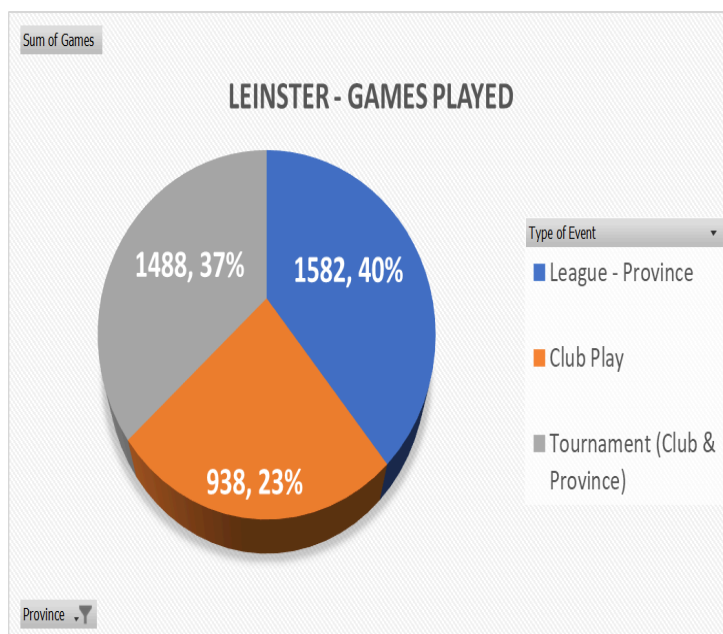
We would like to call out the work in Sutton, Westwood, Mount Pleasant, Old Belvedere, Fitzwilliam, the Curragh and LCC Squash in hosting and operating these events. We will be very keen to help clubs offer a wide variety of events for players of all standards across the province.

### Games Played in Leinster (Snapshot)

The diagram below represents the number of games played and recorded on SportyHQ up to the end of April 2024 from the start of the season August 2023. It is not a “final figure”, the final figures will be presented at the Leinster Squash AGM.

This represents a snapshot of games categorized by the type of event - Tournament delivered by Leinster Squash in the province (outside of the national circuit) and Clubs, the League and what is happening inside clubs ( in the form of challenges, round robins and club championships).

We are really encouraged to see the adoption of SportyHQ to record games. It is through these club games, tournaments and leagues that we will drive the use of “Player Social Rating” which will drive better competitive play at all levels in the game in the province (and beyond).



### The Junior Interprovincial Finals

Leinster Squash delivered the Junior Interprovincials on behalf of Irish Squash, in Sutton Lawn Tennis Club. This is an important milestone in the Squash Calendar for our emerging players from Under 11 on, which was funded by Irish Squash.

It was great to see so many players compete, have fun and wear their provincial colors with such pride! I would like to thank the team in Sutton for all the work in organizing this event including Eoin and Suzanne Ryan, Kate Yeomans on the day and all the other helpers on the BBQ to make it such a great event for all the young players around the country.

Leinster Squash funded the Leinster Squads leading up to the event and would like to thank the coaches in helping to lead our emerging players in this regard.

### Coaching, Junior Programme and Summer Camps

Apart from the great work sustained Sutton and Mount Pleasant we have seen the addition of programmes in Fitzwilliam, LCC Squash and Sandycove. There has been collaboration between Fitzwilliam and Mount Pleasant to hold events in Fitzwilliam to scale coaching events and get greater numbers of players involved.

We have also helped Kilkenny Squash establish their programme, so if we have missed anybody please let us know and come join a network of clubs dedicated to creating the players

of the future. This is an initiative that has been driven by the clubs but are very interested in supporting in any way we can.

We supported two summer camps last year (Mount Pleasant & Sutton) and we would like to hear from any club looking to host events like these in the off season.

### **Leinster Squash Trophies.**

One of the impacts of covid was the disruption of the management and handling of trophies. The work has begun to get these together and up to date. We are happy to say that through the help of many, we have an accurate and full inventory of our trophies and plan to now move on to catching up on the engraving over the off season.

### **Communications and Social Media**

We heavily used the new Website [www.leinsterquash.ie](http://www.leinsterquash.ie) with League Results, announcements, Integrated Calendar and Document Repository all up on the website. This will continue to play the role of information repository for the province. Email was used sparingly to get the news out, but we leaned on Instagram as our primary social media channel, with a 24% increase in followers, now at 427 followers. This is an area that will continue to warrant attention to spread the news and build our profile in the province.

### **Irish Squash Initiatives.**

In light of the continuing Strategic plan and the change in the membership of the Irish Squash Board, Leinster Squash no longer has representation on the Board of Irish Squash. In light of this change and the value of the provinces input into the direction of Irish Squash we worked with members of Irish Squash Leinster Squash and the other provinces to form an "Inter Provincial Forum".

We expect that this will be formed after the Irish Squash AGM, and will be a new way for the voice of the Leinster Province to be heard and help Irish Squash with their plans in the years ahead.

## **Looking to Next Year**

### **Planning for next Season.**

With the competitive season over the Leinster Squash Committee is now going into a period of review and planning for next season. We aim to have a Development Plan 2024/2025 available to share in August of this year.

The formation of the plan is based on reviewing the performance of our events, and exploring other ways in which we develop the game and improve engagement and participation for all players and clubs in the province. If your club is interested in participating in this please contact us and we shall include you in the process.

## **Player Player Pathways 2024**

In the context of Irish Squash's player pathway Leinster Squash are in the process of developing a framework to assist Coaches, Volunteers, Clubs and Players offer ways that will enable players to participate in Squash whether they aspire to podium or play for life.

The framework will be set out in the form of the Leinster Squash Player Development White Paper. It will be shared later this summer and it is expected to form the basis of discussion and plans to help all members of the Leinster Squash play their part in getting more players involved in the game whatever standard and aspirations they may have.

## **Leinster Events & Leagues**

The delivery of the league and tournaments will remain a priority over the year. We will continue to put more effort into the league and extend the scope of tournaments to reach new players through the "one day series" and help clubs promote & operate events over the calendar year - not just the season.

Over the off season we shall be forming a group to review the League and Cups rules. We hope that this will start in late May and complete at the end of July. We wish to examine the rules clear and deal with any anomalies that we encountered over the years. We are very open to anybody to join us to help us with this exercise. Simply contact anybody on the committee and we can take it from there.

We shall be developing a brochure to help explain how new players can engage and get playing within and beyond their clubs. Having an effective and comprehensive set of events for all standards which will promote play but social engagement will be a priority for Leinster Squash next season.

## **The Leinster Squash AGM 2024**

Leinster Squash need fresh voices to join us on the committee. In light of this we shall be looking for the clubs to step up and be part of the Committee. We are a voluntary body, made up of those with a strong ethos in giving back to the sport.

It is important for all clubs in Leinster to be represented and participate - being part of the committee represents an opportunity for your clubs to be part of something bigger and for those persons who come forward to extend the network and perspective. So for not a significant investment in time you plug into a community that wants to share knowledge, bring the game forward and get things done.

We shall be holding our next AGM (virtually) in late August or early September 2024. This is an opportunity for Leinster players and representatives from all Leinster Clubs to join the committee, learn about what is going on and contribute to the direction of Leinster and Irish Squash.

This year will be a year to take stock of the role of Leinster Squash in the context of the change

made to the Board of Irish Squash, since we no longer have a representative place on the Board. In light of this we will be taking the opportunity to refresh our Constitution and realign our policies with that of Irish Squash, and participate in the new Inter Provincial Forum.

### **And finally....**

It has been a good year, as clubs and players get to play and shake off the constraints imposed by Covid. We are also seeing the value of the Irish Squash Strategy and the evolution of a larger team in the Irish Squash office led by the new CEO Scott Graham. We are optimistic that these changes and investment in Squash by Sport Ireland will bring the outcomes to all clubs and players needed to drive the game in Ireland.

Furthermore, I would like to thank Fitzwilliam for their very generous contribution of their facilities for many of our events, and to the team of Sutton Lawn Tennis (Eoin & Suzanne Ryan and Kate Yeomans) who operate many of the junior one day tournaments and also the clubs and volunteering teams in Mount Pleasant, Old Belvedere, the Curragh, Westwood and LCC Squash Club that host and operate tournaments over the course of the season. It is this generosity of effort & spirit that this game is founded on that makes it special. It is very much appreciated.

Lastly, I would like to thank my long-standing colleagues on the committee for their continued dedication and efforts.

The members of the Committee are: -

***The Committee Members: Peter O'Halloran (President), Donal Kelly (Hon Treasurer), Noel Story (Hon Secretary), Andrew Gillespie, Gavin Lestrangle, Kate Yeomans, Aurele Langevin, Eoin Ryan (Junior Secretary) and Gerry Delaney. Reporting to the committee is the Games Promotion Officer Paul Conroy.***

So, to conclude, contact any of us on the committee if you feel we have missed something or you wish to raise any further points and we will be happy to follow up.

**Peter O'Halloran  
President of Leinster Squash  
President @leinstersquash.ie**