

Derbyshire Squash Rackets Association

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<http://www.derbyshiresquash.co.uk>

Derbyshire Squash

Derbyshire's Individual Performances

Hill turns in Mountainous Performance

<http://www.squashsite.co.uk/enschede08.htm>

Laura Hill produced some of her best squash of here career on Saturday in the **Pepsi Enschede Open** in the Netherlands beating the World's No. 28 and 26 in consecutive matches on the same day. However, she just fell short of adding a second WISPA Tour Title.



Laura Hill Finalist Pepsi Enschede Open 2008

Hill's first round match against qualifier Lucie Fialova from Czechoslovakia was a rather unconvincing 3-1. Hill's preparation for the event could not have been worse, having taken two weeks to recover from food poisoning after the Alexandria Open, Egypt last month and was only 50:50 to play this tournament due to 'flu.

8th seed Hill was up against the Italian WR28 Manuela Manetta in the quarter final. Hill drew first blood against a nervous opponent 11-1, but Manetta replied winning the 2nd 5-11 and the 4th 6-11. The 4th saw Hill re-establish her line and length game, dragging Manetta deep into the back corners. 3rd seed Manetta lost the shape of her game and Hill quickly took the 4th 11-3. The 5th saw Hill take an important early lead and Manetta was always playing catch up squash. In this point-a-rally scoring system the players exchanged serves, but the score still advances. This suited Hill as she reached match point at 10-8. Manetta's last ditch efforts saved two match points, but the effort was too great and Hill capitalised winning the required two clear points. The 51 minute match had tested Hill's legs, but she was still in the tournament with a great chance in the semi-final against the 2nd seed Latasha Khan.

American WR26 Latasha Khan had earlier defeated England's Deon Saffery 11-8 11-7 13-11 after the English girl had done her own giant killing beating 6th seed and local heroine Orla Noom. In the semi-final Hill was slow to get her heavy legs going, losing the 1st game 6-11. The 2nd saw Hill loosen up and tighten up, Khan struggling to dig Hill deep length out. Hill took the 2nd 11-7, but a more decisive Khan then raced to a 7-0 lead. Khan was firing excellent winners into the front corners, but an error at 8-1 gave the impetus back to Hill. As Hill collected more points, Khan began to tighten and points were hard to come by. Hill has the first game point, but Khan drew level at 10-10. Hill then took the initiative volleying two fine backhand winners. Khan wasn't done and the next game turned into open warfare. Point for point the two exchanged brutal

rallies. 8-8, 9-9 and then Hill had her first match point 10-9, but Khan levelled with a brave slice to the front. Khan then had several game points 10-11, 11-12, and 12-13, but Hill stood firm and levelled at 13-13. Khan started to lose belief and with Hill still powering those telling lengths, she eventually won the 4th 15-13 in 55 minutes.

Hill's opponent in the final was 4th seed and WR31 Sarah Kippax. Kippax had won an erratic quarter final against Joshna Chinappa 3-2 and then knocked off an out of sorts 1st seed Sharon Wee from Malaysia 3-0 in a low key 27 minutes. Hill had never lost to Kippax and their last encounter was in the Dutch open earlier this month; Hill winning 11-7 11-8 9-11 11-6 in 45 minutes.

This time however, Hill's exertions the previous day had blunted her persistent game. Kippax took the 1st 11-8, somehow Hill managed a response and led 8-2 in the 2nd, but she tired dramatically and Kippax was able to cruise through 11-9. The 2nd game effectively won Kippax the match as Hill was unable to respond in the 11-5 third. Still it was a great tournament for Hill considering her poor build up. She will take great confidence into next week's Bymac Lienster Open at the Fitz William Club, Dublin where a rematch with Kippax is on the cards.

Derbyshire Junior Championships

The cream of Derbyshire's juniors descended on Duffield this weekend to sort out who is top dog in each age group. The honours went Duffield's way in the girls section, whereas it was Brampton Manor's boys who bagged all the silverware.

In the girls section, Duffield's Millie Tomlinson, England U17 No.1 and U19 No.3, was too strong for club mate Hannah Blythe in both the U17 and U19 finals winning each 3-0. Siobhan Baxter picked up the U15 crown beating Madeline Tomlinson 3-0.



*Millie Tomlinson U17 & U19
Derbyshire Junior Champion*

Brampton Manor's Ashley Davies amazingly captured three titles the U15s, U17s and U19s. Davies, the England No.6 U15 first took on practise partner Jonathan Lovegrove in the U17s final. Davies edged the first game 13-11 and then quickly added the 2nd. Lovegrove hit back with two commanding games, but it was Davies who had the killer instinct in the 5th to win it 11-8.

The boys U13 was next on the main show court and current England No.1 U13 Russell Clark was in fine form as he defeated Adam Turner 3-0. However, this was a turnaround after Turner had beaten Clark in the semi-finals of the U15 event. This match had gone all the way, Turner just squeezing through 14-12 in the 5th.

The U15 final saw Ashley Davies pick up his second title as he defeated Adam Turner in 3 games. Davies was too quick and decisive giving Turner little time on the ball.



*Ashley Davies U15, U17 & U19
Derbyshire Junior Champion*

game to adjust to the harder hitting of Jonathan Lovegrove. Davies got the bit between his teeth in the next two games to take a 2-1 lead. In the 4th Lovegrove couldn't quite close a 2 point gap all through the game and Davies looked about to ease to his third title. Lovegrove dug deep to save the first match point with a delicate drop shot and then in a desperate rally found a timely 'nick' off a boast to level at 10-10. Buoyed by this mini-recovery Lovegrove powered through the next two to level the match at 2-2. The momentum was now with Lovegrove and he forged a 6-4 lead, only to make two vital mistakes halting his progress. This was Davies' chance and he neatly extended the lead to 9-6 with two deft short shots. Lovegrove dug in again and served at 8-9, but that was as close as he got; Davies finishing the match with two well worked rallies.

Kevin White
DSRA Chairman

Davies was straight back on court for the final of the U19 blue-ribbon event and took the first

Results Round UP

Event	Winner		Runner-Up	Score
U19 Girls	Millie Tomlinson	beat	Hannah Blythe	11-0 11-2 11-3
U17 Girls	Millie Tomlinson	beat	Hannah Blythe	11-4 11-1 11-0
U15 Girls	Siobhan Baxter	beat	Madeline Tomlinson	11-3 11-4 11-1
U19 Boys	Ashley Davies	beat	Jonathan Lovegrove	7-11 11-5 11-4 10-12 11-8
U17 Boys	Ashley Davies	beat	Jonathan Lovegrove	13-11 11-5 5-11 6-11 11-8
U15 Boys	Ashley Davies	beat	Adam Turner	11-6 11-8 11-7
U13 Boys	Russell Clark	beat	Adam Turner	11-9 12-10 11-5
U11 Mixed	Matthew Barton	beat	Henry Wall	3-0