

Derbyshire Squash & Racketball

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British Junior Championships 2009

The biggest domestic junior squash event of the season took place between the 29th October and the 2nd November 2009 when the Technifibre British Junior Squash Open kicked off at Sportcity, Manchester.

For **Millie Tomlinson** it was also one of her biggest wins of her career when she won the coveted British U19 Championships in convincing style.



Millie Tomlinson receiving the Don Sanderson Trophy after winning the British U19s

The National Squash Centre welcomed over 1200 of the very best young players from the British Isles to fight it out for the 8 coveted junior national titles, with the Under 19's competing for the Don Sanderson Cups.

In 2001 the first Don Sanderson Trophy was contested at the Junior National Championships, James Willstrop being the victor defeating Peter Barker in the Boys event, whilst Laura Jane Lengthorn beat Jenny Duncalf in the Girls final.

Duffield Squash Club's Millie Tomlinson coached by Paul Hargrave was seeded 2 in the girls Under 19 competition and faced tough opposition in the quarter finals from former Under 15's finalist Harriet Ingham, (Surrey) 5/8 seed.

Ingham battled courageously to get to every ball but was no match for the accuracy and finishing of Tomlinson who showed great control to win with

relative ease 11-5 11-3 11-6 to book a place in the semi final later that day.

In the semi-final Millie had a titanic tussle with Julianne Courtice, (Gloucestershire) 3/4 seed Although it was a 3-0 win the game scores say it all; 13-11, 16-14, 13-11 (55 minutes). A bruising encounter as Courtice continually crashed into Tomlinson forcing a three minute injury break at one point in the match as Tomlinson was knocked over and bruised her ankle and thigh.

A final on the all glass court beckoned for Tomlinson against 18 year old Carrie Ramsey (Yorkshire) 3/4 seed. Ramsey has steadily improved this season after leaving school and becoming a full time squash player and currently trains on the all glass show court at Sportcity, Manchester.

The final commenced at 2:00pm with a large noisy crowd looking to inspire local girl Ramsey. Millie Tomlinson looked focused and confident and quickly moved into a two game lead controlling the rallies with some excellent lengths and attacking volleys, rarely hitting a loose ball.

Tomlinson had to work harder in the third game as Ramsey looking for her first national title found some rhythm and at one point had a 9-5 lead. However, Tomlinson, not one to give up easily, fought back in brilliant style to clinch the match 11-9 and become Under 19 British Champion.

It was a third British title for Tomlinson to add to her U13 and U15 titles.

Derbyshire's leading male junior **Ashley Davies** was seeded no.2 for the **Tecnifibre British Junior U15 Closed Championships** which was held at the Northern Club, Didsbury.

Richie Fallows, pictured below, at No 1. Fallows and Ashley have fought out numerous finals this season, but this one was the big one for both of them. Both players are their County's No 1's, Fallows, for Essex, and Ashley for Derbyshire, and both players are Regional Champions too.

Ashley had the easier draw for once in the early rounds. If your name was Alex then you were on your

way out. Davies sliced through the early rounds all 3-0. First was Alex Finch, the England No 28, 11-6, 11-4, 11-7, next Alex Noakes, England No 15, 11-7, 11-5, 11-4 then in the quarter final, Alex Pendleton, Welsh No 1, and another 3-0, 11-7, 11-7, 12-10.

The Semi Final was a much harder fought match against England No 4, Hamish Falconer. A gruelling 45 minute match was eventually captured by Davies and which saw him through to his first National Final with a 11-9, 8-11, 11-9, 11-7, 11-7, 12-10, victory, and another chance at Richie Fallows.

In the final both started off at a fast and furious pace but Ashley gave his opponent a little too much respect in the first game Fallows taking it 11-5. The next two games were just as punishing, the second going point for point to a tie breaker, which Fallows took 12-10. The third game went the same but Ashley just couldn't get the breaks and lost the 3rd 11-9.

There was very little in it apart from the first game. Fallows was a worthy Champion and just too good for Ashley on the day.



Derbyshire Mens' League Round 4

Division 1

	P	W	L	F	A	D	Pts.
The Manor 1	4	4	0	73	20	0	73
Repton 1	4	4	0	68	22	0	68
LA Fitness 1	4	3	1	56	35	0	56
Burton 1	4	3	1	55	32	0	55
Duffield 1	4	1	3	38	55	0	38
Hood Park 1	4	1	3	34	56	0	34
Brampton Manor 1	4	0	4	27	63	0	27
Lumb Farm 1	4	0	4	9	77	0	9

The Manor (17) 4-1 Duffield (8)

League leaders The Manor pulled away slightly from the chasing pack after beating Duffield 4-1 at home, even without no.1 John Underhill. The Manor's Nigel Millington used his low cuts into the front corners to great effect against Chris Alcock in his 1st team debut. Alcock countered in the 2nd with some great retrieving to snatch the 2nd 9-10 and an upset looked on the cards. However, Millington hit some splendid kills to take the 3rd easily, but Alcock attacked again in the 4th to level at 7-7. A couple of Millington's decisive kills was all that was needed though to put the Manor 1-0 up. Craig Walsh was on top form against another returning from injury, Felix Frixou, and it was all one way traffic in a straights sets win. Down to the two ladies for Duffield and it looked like both could produce the goods. Both lost the first, Laura Hill by 10-9 to Jason Walsh and Millie Tomlinson 9-5 to Carl Bettison. Both took the next two games to lead 1-2 to give Duffield hope of an unlikely result. At 7-7 in the 4th, Hill's strong charge to the line was halted by a second broken racket. Walsh capitalised in fine style reeling off a winner to take the 4th and then dominating the 5th 9-2. However, Bettison didn't need a piece of luck as he upped his game to his own pace and took the 4th and 5th games 9-1 9-2. Kevin White added 3 points to Duffield's cause defeating Neil Rossin 3-0.

Hood Park 1 (9) 2-3 Repton 1 (16)

The sigh of relief from Hood Park by the Repton team could be heard the County over as Ben Smith played out of his skin to win the last two games to beat Ian Duffy 3-2 to lead his side to a 3-2 win. Shorn of their top three, Messers Fuller, O'Hara and Woodroffe, the travelling Repton side stood up and

were counted in what could be a crucial win come the end of the season.

Stand-in Adrian Oldbury completed a straight set win over Pete Wood at 5th string, while second reserve Rob Jackson eventually subdued Mark Hoffman 3-1 to give Repton a 2-0 lead. Adam Armiger's transfer from Duffield to Repton looked a good one as he sailed to a 2-0 advantage, but Mick Burton came roaring back to a 3-2 win to put Hood Park in with a chance. Simon Hurst then put in a measured performance that prevented Lee Watson getting into his line and length game, Hurst winning out 3-0. 2-2 and Duffy took the first 9-3 only for Smith to reply with the same score; Duffy again took the lead with the 3rd 9-2, but then Smith found a purple patch and his winning kills began to tell towards the end of each of the 4th and 5th games to bring victory to Repton.

Repton play hosts to The Manor next round and this clash will surely shape the destiny of the league.

LA Fitness (15) 3-2 Brampton Manor (8)

Brampton, strengthened by the return from injury of County Captain Brendan Hickerman, were within a whisker of pulling off a surprise win against LA Fitness. Neil Thorpe made short work of Jamie Meakin for LA to take first blood, but Brampton's club coach Jason Fearn levelled with a measured response after Paul Howell took the 1st game; 9-5 4-9 3-9 5-9. No.2 Alex Cutts always had the upper hand over England O45 Greg Loach, but it was far from plain sailing and Cutts was more than happy to record a 3-0 win. Meanwhile the no.3s were sharing the games evenly with LA's Mike Lambert taking the 1st and 3rd games to Will Watson's 2nd and 4th. Both players couldn't press home their advantage and the 5th eventually came to a head at 8-8, Watson having missed his only chance at match point. It came down to experience as Lambert took the initiative playing two decisive low cross court kills to win the 5th 10-8 and effectively the match. Hickerman's return to competition showed he had some way to go before full fitness as Ryan Loska took full advantage 9-6 9-4 9-2.

Burton 1 (20) 5-0 Lumb Farm 1 (1)

Little needs to be said about this fixture as Burton took full toll on Lumb Farm and close to within 1 point of LA Fitness in 3rd place. Lumb Farm drift further away from the bottom of the table and look in all sorts of problems. Neil Nightingale took the solitary game off Greg Watkins, otherwise Burton romped home with 3-0 wins all round.

Division 3

	P	W	L	F	A	D	Pts.
Repton 2	4	4	0	79	18	0	79
Queens Park 1	4	3	1	60	37	0	60
LA Fitness 2	4	2	2	52	45	0	52
Duffield 3	4	1	3	41	61	0	41
Burton 3	3	2	1	34	42	0	34
Hood Park 2	3	1	2	27	43	0	27
Draycott 2	3	0	3	26	52	0	26
Brampton Manor 2	3	1	2	25	46	0	25

Repton 2 (20) 5-0 Hood Park (3)

Repton recorded their 3rd maximum of 20 points, this time brushing aside Hood Park 2. Ingo Keling resisted the inevitable well taking Ian Rogers into a 5th game and Ray Patrick snatched the 2nd 9-10 from Martin Allen.

Duffield 3 (18) 4-1 Queens Park 1 (8)

Duffield 3 secured their 1st win in emphatic style and in the process clipping the wings of Queens, allowing Repton to escape further. Simon Law's policy of calling set 1 at 8-8 paid off as he won both the 1st and 3rd games 9-8, the 2nd also going his way 9-7, leaving Tony Robinson wondering what he had to do to win one. Paul Harrison maintained his good form as did Qamran Yaqoob, both winning 3-2. Newcomer Richie Bell looked good in the 1st, but Glen Woodhead found his range and nullified Bell's pace taking the last 3 games comfortably to garner Queen's only win. Dave Yallop's deceptive shot making only briefly allowed Charles Noble to take the 2nd as the Duffield skipper claimed a handy 3-1 win.

Brampton Manor 2 (15) 3-2 LA Fitness 2 (9)

Brampton 2 finally got their season off to a start with a rather useful win against LA Fitness 2, who now tumble down the table. Chris Coe and Keith Howard put LA 2-0 up, but Nick Melton soon made that 1-2 after a stuttering opener. Jono Lovegrove was relieved to win the 4th 10-8 against Martin Edwards to bring parity to the match. However, it would be another 90 minutes before the outcome was known as Steve Barker and Ian Mackinnon were almost inseparable in a pulsating and tense 1st string match. Barker somehow managed to get to match point in the 3rd, but was denied by some daring shot play from McKinnon, the 4th was a repeat to put the match at 2-2. Point for point the two slugged it out

in the 5th, but it was McKinnon that reached his first match point - saved by a desperately tired Barker. Barker managed to level at 8-8 and then played a superb front court angle and tight wall-clinger to finally subdue McKinnon in the 5th to record an incredible score line of 10-9 9-7 8-10 8-10 10-8.

Division 5

	P	W	L	F	A	D	Pts.
Queens Park 2	4	3	1	61	32	0	61
Burton 5	3	2	1	43	29	0	43
Bradley House	3	2	1	38	32	0	38
David Lloyd 3	4	2	2	38	55	0	38
Duffield 5	4	1	3	37	57	0	37
Lumb Farm 3	3	1	2	34	37	0	34
LA Fitness 4	3	1	2	30	39	0	30

Queens Park 2 look the pick of the teams in Division 5 and their defeat of **Duffield 5** 4-1 gives them a healthy lead. Tony May made a good win a great one for Queens as he powered back from 0-2 down to beat Mike Dyer 4-9 4-9 9-3 9-0 9-0. Mark Benson was Duffield's only winner beating Andy Goodall 3-1.

Lumb Farm 3 were denied a hard fought victory over **Burton 5** by the stubborn play of Dick Lathbury who won two games 9-10 against Paul Catermole. Each player winning 39 points a piece showed how close it was.

David Lloyd 3 picked up their knees a little and gave themselves a chance of heading up the table with a 3-2 win over **LA Fitness 4**. Hannah Legg and Garry Devonish both won 3-0, but with Jim Hope and Mark Steadman levelling for LA the difference between the sides came down to Mark Whittlesea's sterling comeback against Sean Sullivan 2-9 1-9 9-4 9-2 9-5.

Kevin White
DSR Chairman