

# Derbyshire Squash & Racketball

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

## Individual Performances

### Belgium Junior Open 2009

Millie Tomlinson consolidated her impressive British National U19 Girls title with another splendid display to win the Belgium Junior Open without dropping a game. Tomlinson dropped just 6 points in her first round match against Assania Mahamath; 11 points in the 2<sup>nd</sup> round against Ashley Tidman. Into the semi-finals and Tomlinson cut to pieces Cyrielle Peltier 11-2 11-3 11-3. Tomlinson then demolished Brogan Lane 11-5 11-4 11-4 to underline that she is to be regarded as Europe's best U19.

In the boys U15s, Brampton Manor's **Ashley Davies** won his 1st European Super Series event, at the Flemish Squash Centre, in Herentals, Belgium over the weekend of 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> November. Following closely on his British Junior Closed success (runner up), the weekend before in Manchester, Ashley was seeded No 4 in the Belgian event, and was keen to improve on his 6<sup>th</sup> place finish from last year, when the event was held in Brussels.



Ashley Davies (L) takes his first Superseries Title from compatriot Stuart Allcock (R)

After a 1<sup>st</sup> round bye, Davies completed an easy 2<sup>nd</sup> round match against the French 36<sup>th</sup> seed, Mathias Grondin 11-2, 11-2, 11-2. Another Frenchman was also overcome 3-0 in the 3<sup>rd</sup> round, this time Baptiste Masotti the 13<sup>th</sup> seed 11-9, 11-6, 11-4. Down to serious business in the quarter finals and Davies was

now up against the No5 seed and Israeli No.1 Daniel Poleshchuk. Davies was slow to start losing the first, but recovered well as he asserted his game eventually winning 6-11, 11-7, 11-4, 11-6. This was a notable win for Davies as he had lost 3-0 to Poleshchuk in the same event last year.

The semi-finals again saw Davies' relatively improvement within his age group as he reversed a 3-0 loss, only in July this year, to Jan Ryba the Czech No1 and European No 3. Davies' calm under pressure and growing mental resilience held him in good stead in two tie-break games to win 12-10, 12-10, 11-3.

Also turning a few heads as he progressed through the field on his way to the final was fellow Englishman Stuart Allcock the England No 4 and seeded No 2. Davies was on top from the word go and easily bagged the first two games, but a big push by Allcock gave him the 3<sup>rd</sup>. Davies refocused in the 4<sup>th</sup> and once on top never let go winning 11-3, 11-6, 10-12, 11-3

## Derbyshire Men's League Round 4

### Division 2

	P	W	L	F	A	D	Pts.
<a href="#">Burton 2</a>	4	3	1	60	35	0	60
<a href="#">David Lloyd 1</a>	4	3	1	57	44	0	57
<a href="#">The Manor 2</a>	4	3	1	54	43	0	54
<a href="#">Ashbourne</a>	4	2	2	52	46	0	52
<a href="#">Draycott 1</a>	4	2	2	49	51	0	49
<a href="#">Duffield 2</a>	4	2	2	47	44	0	47
<a href="#">Rolls-Royce 1</a>	4	1	3	39	62	0	39
<a href="#">Lumb Farm 2</a>	4	0	4	30	63	0	30

### **Ashbourne (20) 5-0 Draycott 1 (3)**

After round 2 Ashbourne looked in a sorry state at the foot of the table while Draycott were sailing high in top spot, but how things can change so quickly; Ashbourne's 5-0 thumping of Draycott put them into 4<sup>th</sup> position and just above Draycott. Tom Machell, Adrian Alcock and skipper Mike Herridge all romped to 3-0; while Grant Nicholson continued his

recuperation with a battling 3-2 win over Steve Reeves. Jack Allcock put the icing on the cake for Ashbourne defeating Martin Rose 3-1.

#### Lumb Farm 2 (7) 2-3 Burton 2 (17)

Burton 2 raced to the top of Division 2 after beating Lumb Farm 3-2 and despite losing to Rolls-Royce last round. They were ably supported by champions elect David Lloyd's ignominious defeat at Duffield 2. Burton 2 led early on with wins from Rob Lathbury and Greg Watkins, but Matthew Mclachlan's own 2-0 lead slipped away as Aide Elks staged a great recovery to keep Lumb Farm in the hunt. Matt Whitehead got the better of Tom Comb at No.1 string to level the match at 2-2, but Adrian Murphy's deceptive late shots sent John Beastall the wrong way too often and Murphy sealed the tie for Burton.

#### The Manor 2 (20) 5-0 Rolls-Royce 1 (8)

Rolls-Royce's excellent victory over Burton in the previous round was another example of how close this division is and again they wouldn't have expected a 5-0 thrashing off The Manor 2. It could have been different though as Kevin Britchford, Chris Murray and Fitz Hays all succumbed 3-2. The Manor now move up to 3<sup>rd</sup> and trail Burton 2 by just 6 points.

#### Duffield 2 (19) 4-1 David Lloyd 1 (6)

David Lloyd were shorn of Richard Underhill and have yet to get the wraps off their star player Joel Hinds and duly crashed to their first defeat at the hands of Duffield 2. Kyle McBride showed for the first time this season and the complete absence of rust as he defeated Craig Simpson 9-0 9-3 9-3 at No.1 string. Felix Frixou also showed good composure on the ball in a much improved performance beating Matthew Stone 3-1. Adrian Watts and Chris Alcock had earlier got Duffield off to a good start. John Mauro snatching some face saving points for David Loyds when he beat Lesley Sturgess 3-2 at no.5.

#### Division 4

	P	W	L	F	A	D	Pts.
<a href="#">LA Fitness 3</a>	4	1	3	48	50	0	48
<a href="#">Sandiacre Friesland</a>	3	2	1	43	31	0	43
<a href="#">David Lloyd 2</a>	3	2	1	43	34	0	43
<a href="#">Rolls-Royce 2</a>	3	2	1	36	36	0	36
<a href="#">Burton 4</a>	3	1	2	32	39	0	32
<a href="#">Duffield 4</a>	2	1	1	23	26	0	23
<a href="#">Hood Park 3</a>	2	1	1	21	30	0	21

#### Sandiacre (15) 3-2 LA Fitness 3 (10)

Sandiacre are another side who have reversed their dreadful start to their season with two consecutive wins, the latest over the then 2<sup>nd</sup> placed LA Fitness. Much acclaim will go to Stuart Lee's heroics early on as he overcame Garry Smith in a gruelling 5 setter. John Ockenden and Carl Jennings posted 3-1 wins to hand this closely fought tie to Sandiacre.

#### Division 6

	P	W	L	F	A	D	Pts.
Brampton Manor 3	3	3	0	51	23	0	51
Burton 6	3	3	0	48	20	0	48
Hood Park 4	4	0	4	34	67	0	34
Kimberley Manor	2	2	0	32	18	0	32
Repton 3	3	1	2	28	39	0	28
Queens Park 3	3	0	3	23	49	0	23

#### Hood Park 4 (9) 2-3 Burton 6 (16)

Hood Park's 'white line fever' continued as they recorded their 3<sup>rd</sup> 3-2 loss, this time to Burton 6. Steve Quigley showed how to cling on to a match taking the last two games on a tie break eventually beating Paul Askew 9-6 3-9 10-8 10-9. John Gothard was blown away by Lewis Baker 3-0 to level the score, before Ingo Keling put Hood Park back in the lead with a 3-1 win over Tom Stewart. Paul Baker won a vital first game 10-9 to overcome Richard Wormersley to put the match at 2-2. Hood's Ray Patrick took the first in some style 9-1 and held onto the 2<sup>nd</sup> 9-7 as Owen Whitfield began to find his range. Whitfield fired in some telling winners to take the 3<sup>rd</sup> 6-9, but a resurgent Patrick reached 8-6 match point only for Whitfield to run down some lengthy rallies and put away some deft drop shots for to 8-8 and then 8-10 to take it to a 5<sup>th</sup>. Whitfield was always ahead in the 5<sup>th</sup> as Partick played catch up squash, but could never quite get on terms as Whitfield took the 5<sup>th</sup> 5-9 and handed the bonus points to Burton.

#### Brampton Manor 3 (16) 3-2 Queens Park 3 (9)

This Chesterfield derby had a certain symmetry to it as all the matches ended 3-1, but it was Brampton that edged it. Tony Humphries overcame a slight age gap defeating Alex Wilson, but father Andy soon equalled thing as he defeated Martin Speed. Sue Nash and Jon Hendy then took the tie for Brampton to leave Queens still searching for their first victory.

## Inter Counties Championships

### **Men O35 (A-Team)**

Derbyshire Men's O35 side have won the Harris Inter-Counties' title the last two years, but came crashing down to earth in the first round this season. Held at Brampton Manor, Chesterfield, Derbyshire hosted former champions Durham along with hopefuls Cambridge and Cheshire.

Injuries and illness left just Kevin White from last year's team against a Durham side baying for revenge and return of the trophy they held before Derbyshire. With the added spice of Durham's No1 Yawar Abbas looking to put the record straight after losing to White in the British Open O40s, it was a tough start to Derbyshire's defence. Late replacement Dave Yallop started brightly taking the first and holding a game point in the 2<sup>nd</sup>, but a knee injury forced his retirement in the 3<sup>rd</sup>. Brampton club mates Jason Fearn and Charlie Wall couldn't put home advantage to the fore as they both slipped to 3-0 defeats. Abbas looked sharp and took the opener off White with some comfort. White began to move a little more freely in the 2<sup>nd</sup>, but it was Abbas who went 2-0 up. White managed to save a match ball and win the 3<sup>rd</sup>, but that just held back the inevitable as Abbas refocused for the 4<sup>th</sup>. Greg Loach couldn't quite pinch a game off Andy Cross even though both the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> games were 'set'. 5-0 to Durham.

Derbyshire's only chance was to beat Cambridge and strengthened by Brendan Hickerman at No.2 they were in with a chance. Cambridge had previously beaten Cheshire 5-0 so it needed to be a decent win for Derbyshire. White and Hickerman each won comfortably, while another Brampton recruit Ian Hilton and team mate Charlie Wall both fell 3-0. That left Jason Fearn to win the tie for Derbyshire, but at 2-0 down to Simon Garner things looked bleak. However, the Brampton coach began to move his opponent methodically front to back at his own pace and made good in-roads. The 3<sup>rd</sup> went to Fearn 12-10 and the 2<sup>nd</sup> 11-9, but Gardner's team mates spurred him on to lift the pace of the game and out of Fearn's comfort zone. A health early lead kept the 5<sup>th</sup> out of Fearn's grasp. 3-2 to Cambridge and Derbyshire's grasp of the trophy finally slipped out of their fingers.

Derbyshire rallied in the 3<sup>rd</sup> match and with Andy Mills joining the fray at No.2, beat Cheshire 3-2 for some solace. The possible return of Richard Woodroffe and a full set of matches from Mills and

Loach will surely see Derbyshire safe from relegation next February.

### **Men O35 (B-Team)**

Derbyshire Men's O35 B side travelled to Lincolnshire to take on the hosts, Leicestershire and Yorkshire. Again injuries, illness and family commitments ravaged the team, but there were some encouraging performances from the Derbyshire faithful. Draycott's Martin Rose captured Derbyshire's only game against Leicestershire in a one-sided opener.

A much better performance came in 2<sup>nd</sup> match with Lincolnshire and with wins from Lee Watson and Mike Lambert Derbyshire might have held hopes of a win but for the absence of a 5<sup>th</sup> string. A faint glimmer of hope rested with beating Yorkshire while Leicester had to beat Lincolnshire. Alas there were some excellent efforts from the Derbyshire players, bolstered by the including of Adrian Murphy at no.2, but only Mike Herridge pulled off an unlikely win, Derbyshire going down 4-1. Like their A-team counterparts the B-side will be fighting to stave off relegation in next February's final stages.

**Kevin White**  
DSR Chairman