

Competition Round Up: 26th & 27th October

This weekend was a very busy period of competition with Lanarkshire players competing across a variety of events

Lanarkshire Junior Singles League

On Saturday we held our second Lanarkshire Junior Singles League event at the Alistair McCoist Complex in East Kilbride which had 38 entries across five groups. It was a clean sweep for Peter Young who won all 5 of his matches in Group 1. However there were some tight matches in particular against Matthew Copland who Peter narrowly beat 22-20 with Matthew finishing in 2nd place. Group 2 winner was Zoe Dixon producing a dominant display winning all of her matches. Gregor Gray topped Group 3 with a consistent set of performances and this was a similar outcome in Group 4 Bhanu Duvvuri who was the overall winner. In Group 5, it was a convincing series of wins for youngster Kayden Cook who finished in 1st position

Committee Member Pam Casey who was volunteering at the competition reflected on the day:

“The event ran smoothly and was well within the allocated time. We had good feedback from the kid's parents who we're playing in a competition for the first time which is pleasing to here. Great effort from all the players today, we hope you enjoyed yourselves and we are looking forward to our next event”

A big thank you to our volunteer team of Pam Casey and Frank Turnbull who organised and made sure the event ran successfully.

Full results available [here](#).

SSBU 2011 Age Group Tournament

Across the motorway, over in North Lanarkshire the SSBU hosted their 2011 Age Group Tournament at Wishaw Sports Centre, which had a total of 29 entries across 4 events. These particular tournaments are an interesting format where players play in round robin pools and then depending on their finishing position in the group progress to a knock out stage.

Lanarkshire's Chris Agnew was competing in Group A of the Boy's Singles. Chris won his opening match 21-13 and fought hard in his second match against number 1 seed Dylan Jia however Dylan won 21-10. Into the quarter finals, it was another valiant effort from Chris however he lost out to his opponent Krishna Vundavalli. Despite this, a great effort from Chris and best of luck for tournaments coming up in next few months.

Full results available [here](#).

2024 SSBU Senior Inter Area

The SSBU also held their Senior Inter Area event which took place at Penicuik Leisure Centre. This is a team event for players who are S5-S6 age and compete against various groups from across Scotland. On this occasion, Lanarkshire Team were up against Glasgow, Lothian 1 and Lothian 2. The team included Elona Kennedy, Sophie Hutton, Layla Shaw, Lexie Boland, Seb Janicki, Vladis Vilkaitis, Sam O'Brien and Peter Young with Layla & Lexie from West of Scotland area filling in to support the team.

The opening match was against Glasgow. A great effort from the team with wins for Layla & Lexie in the singles rubbers and Elona teaming up with Layla to win the Girl's Doubles 1 21-9,

21-19. Although the overall score finished 8-3 to Glasgow. On to the second match against Lothian 1 who proved to be too strong for the Lanarkshire team however it was close tie between Lothian 2. Wins in the singles' rubbers for Vladis, Layla & Elona pulled the score back to 3-3. Elona & Layla at 5-4 managed to keep Lanarkshire in the tie after an epic 40 minute match against Lothian's Amy Hunter and Sophie Walker. Despite losing the opening set 17-21, they managed to draw level in the second set 21-19 and hold their nerve to edge the third set 28-26! This brought the score to 5-5 with the final 11th rubber being the decider. An admirable effort from Lexie & Sophie however it was Lothian's Emily Jobson and Maggie Wang who clinched the victory for Lothian.

Team Manager Jill Smith commented on the day:

"As Team Manager I thoroughly enjoyed my day with this group. The standard of play was high and it was great to see some less experienced competition players doing so well. A special mention to Vladis winning his singles and doubles with Sam against Lothian 2. Thanks also to the SSBU team who continue to deliver these events which provide great opportunity for players to play as part of a team"

Full results available [here](#).

EBA Silver

Over at Mary Erskine School in Edinburgh, the EBA took place with four players from Lanarkshire in action – Graeme Cunningham, Cameron Dean, Carla-Louise MacKenzie and Kenny Morrison. These events are for competitive club and county players who want tough opposition and challenging matches. The format of this event uses a triple draw format so that everyone is guaranteed three matches. Stronger players compete in the A draw while losing pairs drop into the B or C draws.

It was a high standard the event and the players all put in a good effort – well done!

Full results available [here](#).

2024 Scottish National Masters Championships

The weekend saw the return of the 2024 Scottish National Masters Championships which was held at the Sir Craig Reddie Badminton Centre in Glasgow. As ever it was a large entry with 121 players ranging from 35+ up to 70+ age categories across 40 different events.

Lanarkshire had quite a few players competing and quite a bit of success too. Linzi & Martin Greig took home Silver in the Mixed Doubles 40 category, with Linzi adding to her tally by securing another Silver this time with partner Laura Muir in the Women's Doubles 40 category. Sam Johnson took home 3 medals from the weekend after an impressive display. This included Gold in the Mixed Doubles 60 category with Gordon Keith and two Silver medals – Mixed Doubles 60 and Men's Singles 60 categories respectively. Jill Smith continued her winnings ways clinching Silver in the Women's Singles 60 category.

Fantastic effort from all the masters players – great job!

Full results available [here](#).