

Round Up: 2025 Lanarkshire U15/19 Junior Open

By Lanarkshire Badminton Group

At the weekend, a total of 79 participants gathered in the sweltering heat at the Alistair McCoist Complex in East Kilbride, South Lanarkshire for the 2025 Lanarkshire U15/19 Junior Open. It was tough conditions to play but there was some excellent performances on display. On the Saturday the singles and level doubles events' took place with mixed doubles and finals on the Sunday with many competing in all three disciplines.

Dylan Jia took two gold medals, firstly in the U15 Boys Singles and then with partner Melrick D'Souza in U15 Boys Doubles with a convincing win in the final 21-12, 21-8. Melrick was also on top form in the U15 Mixed Doubles, winning Gold with partner Emily Jobson in an epic 3 setter against Elona Kennedy and Nathan Luo. Nathan then played up in the U19 event for Boys Doubles reaching the quarter final with Calum Tsang.

Emily Jobson took the U15 Girls Singles title against Elona, then teaming up together the pair were runners-up in the U15 Girls Doubles final, with Emma Joshua and Zoe Tait winning all 4 matches in the pool to take Gold.

Alfie Martin continued his consistent form winning both the U19 Mixed Doubles and Boys Doubles titles with Qing Yang Xiao and Lewis Smith respectively. Lewis also battled in the U19 Boys Singles, pushing Thomas Fragell all the way in a 3 set encounter with Thomas winning final set 21-14. Thomas also had success in the U19 Mixed Doubles with Lanna Campbell, taking Silver. Lanna progressed with Gemma Foulis to final of U19 Girls Doubles to face Anshita Jaiswal and Chloe

MacKenzie. It was an other 3 set match the went in the favour of Anshita and Chloe, securing the win 21-15, 17-21 and 21-12.

Lanarkshire Badminton Group's Convenor Jill Smith reflected on the day:

"Well done to all the competitors who took part in the Lanarkshire U15/19 in a very hot hall at the weekend. The standard of play was very high and lots of close matches which was evident in the number of three set matches. Also thanks to everyone who purchased clothes and home baking, this is vital to the sustainability of our group and its activities.

Finally, a thanks must go to our volunteer team of Frank Turnbull, Janice Hunter-Craig (good luck next week at the <u>Scottish LGBTQ+ Competition</u>) and Sam Johnson. The team in particular dealt well with Tournament Software crashing on the Saturday and managed to get back on track by pulling together (the power of teamwork!) - thanks to everyone's patience throughout.

It was great to see so many people travel from across Scotland, this is appreciated. We look forward to welcoming competitors back to future events in Lanarkshire'

To view the results from the weekend, click here.