



Wrexham Squash

January 2003

What a year for Wrexham Squash in 2002

Useful Contacts

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Guidelines for Juniors playing at the Phoenix Squash Club

- * Courts may be booked during the day in advance through the Sports Centre at NEWI.
- * Evening bookings by Juniors should only be made on the day, if there is availability.
- * Juniors must be accompanied by an adult and, at all times, wear approved goggles.

This is for your safety

When we started Wrexham Squash in April 2002 we had a simple vision, through an initiative between the two squash clubs in Wrexham—Phoenix Squash Club and Sports Connection—to promote the game of squash at a junior level (age under 19 years).

This collaborative venture sought to encourage a sustained and steady growth in the number of young players coming through to reach their own personal goal in sporting achievement, with progression through to senior squash and possibly to representational level.

Back then we had use of five courts but now we only have two. The overnight closure of Sports Connection was a bitter blow, just as we were getting started!

What has been achieved?

With tremendous help from the Phoenix Club members, the juniors have been fully integrated into the Club and we now have regular

Junior Club Nights, Junior Leagues and developed links with other clubs across North Wales through friendly matches.

We've invited all parents to meet with us and now have an agreed formal Constitution.

Our activity has been an important compliment to the formal coaching undertaken by Laurie Jones through the Centre of Development (this had to be transferred to Queensway due to pressure on courts at Phoenix).

We have also been successful in obtaining funding from Sportslot.



Members of Wrexham Squash in November 2002 with sponsor, John Williams

. . . and here's hoping for 2003 !

The organising committee have plans for the year which will aim to build on what has been achieved and out of desire to become more sustainable.

- We need to develop links with schools and provide greater opportunities for taster sessions. The experience with Watts Dyke has gone so far but needs to be followed through in an organised and systematic way to pick up on those who have a real interest in taking up the sport.
- We need to develop from within the Phoenix Club and encourage team and other players to consider taking Level One and Two Squash Coaching courses.
- We feel that the juniors we have already involved with Wrexham Squash have all developed their game and skills tremendously over the last ten months or so. They are a great bunch and we want to maintain their level of interest and progress in ways which are innovative and inclusive of the young people.
- We still have the vision and would encourage all help and support from parents, players and others interested in the future of sport for young people.

Wrexham Junior Closed Championship

Over the weekend of 6-8 December the first Wrexham Junior Squash Tournament was held at the Phoenix Squash Club.

The extremely successful competition was the culmination of months of hard work for the young people and the quality of play highlighted the progress that they have made.

Special thanks go to our generous tournament sponsors, Ann and Russell Evans of Alyn Lodge, Nr Gresford.

2002 Roll of Honour

Under 11s - Winner: Hannah Davies (R/up: Gavin Davies)

Under 13s - Winner: John Evans (R/up: Lewis Turner)

Under 15s - Winner: John Evans (R/up: Adam Holland)

Under 17s - Winner: Robbie Evans (R/up: Gareth Turner)

Congratulations to all participants.



John Evans, Winner of two events in the Wrexham Junior Closed Tournament.

Picture courtesy of Wrexham Evening Leader

**Congratulations
to Hannah Davies and John Evans
on their inclusion in formal rankings
within Wales Squash**

Wrexham Juniors receive acclaim from North Wales Clubs

During the year our juniors have been invited to play at a number of clubs across North Wales, from Bethesda (twice) to Colwyn Bay and Prestatyn and we have still to take an offer to travel to Pwllheli.

Teams of up to 15 players have travelled and enjoyed some good competition from clubs who have been working with their juniors for several years.

We are pleased to report some very encouraging and complimentary remarks about how we are being received at these clubs and, in particular, the way in which the juniors handle themselves both on

and off court. It is very obvious also that in terms of standard of play that we are catching up.

Big thanks go to those who help out with transport (Helen Turner, Alan Evans and Mark Davies) and, as an organising committee, we thank again our sponsors, Wrexham Borough Council Sportslot, John & Helen Williams and Russell & Ann Evans.

It is important that the we all continue to help the young people as they represent Wrexham Squash and that they go on court with some pride.

Let's keep it up in 2003 !