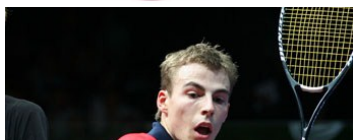




England Squash & Racketball West Midlands Regional Newsletter



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Happy New Year and welcome to the January edition of the West Midlands Regional Newsletter.

We have had a busy start to the year in the regional office and there is a lot to report in this month's newsletter. Firstly, 'Friends Go Free' kicked off on the 14th January for a month long campaign to attract new members into your club. Ten clubs in the West Midlands have officially signed up to the campaign, but there is still time for more to be involved. Read on for more information inside the newsletter!

We are pleased to announce that the Regional Squad training sessions have seen a significant rise in attendances at the start of 2012, which we hope to maintain throughout the rest of the season and in the coming years. Plans are already in place for the **Regional Team Championships** taking place in the West Midlands on the 31st March and 1st April, and Regional Squads will be chosen over the coming weeks. Darren Lewis and Steve Townsend, Regional Academy Coaches, will have a tough job in selecting our region's best players to compete at the Championships. Players will receive an official invite from the Regional Office soon.

The highly anticipated **Regional Racketball Closed Championships** is due to take place on the 3rd & 4th March 2012 at Stourbridge Lawn tennis and Squash Club, so enter now to secure your place in this prestigious annual tournament. Further details can be found in the newsletter.

This is just a snapshot of January's highlights but once again the region's coaches, clubs, volunteers and players never fail to impress us here at England Squash and Racketball. Keep your good news stories and club information coming in and we will advertise and promote in the monthly newsletter, on the ESR website and on twitter. Remember to



follow us @ESR_WM by following the link below.

https://twitter.com/#!/ESR_WM

Wishing you all the best for 2012
Helen

Remember to keep up to date with all the latest news from the West Midlands at our regional page:

<http://>

www.englandsquashandracketball.com/

[clubs/in-your-region/west-midlands](http://www.englandsquashandracketball.com/clubs/in-your-region/west-midlands)



FRIENDS GO FREE

Why not bring a friend to try squash & racketball for free?

Club members can bring a friend to try squash & racketball for free on selected dates in Jan. and Feb. 2012

Bring a friend, all equipment provided.

Friends Go Free Frenzy in West Midlands

England Squash & Racketball's latest campaign, 'Friends Go Free', was launched on the 14th January, and looks set to be hugely popular in the West Midlands region. The new initiative targets existing club members, who will be able to take along a friend for a game of squash or racketball to their local participating club, all at no extra cost! Clubs currently participating in the West Midlands region include:

West Warwicks Sports Club
 Kenilworth Lawn Tennis & Squash Club
 Leamington Spa Lawn Tennis & Squash Club
 Ardencote Manor Hotel, Spa & Country Club
 Cleaver Squash and Fitness Club
 Sutton Coldfield Squash Racquets Club
 Knowle & Dorridge Racquets Club
 Hampton in Arden Squash & Racketball Club
 Wolverhampton Lawn Tennis & Squash Club
 Kings Heath Cricket and Sports Club

Curb the recession and win £5000 for your Club!



The Mall in Sutton Coldfield are launching a fantastic opportunity this week whereby your club, organisation can win £5000, click on the link below to nominate.

Do you know a local club that supports and promotes healthy or active lifestyles for the U21's? Nominate your local school football team, karate group or even dance class and they could become The Mall Sutton Coldfield's Local Champions and benefit from a one-off donation of £5000.

If you would like any further information on this scheme, for both clubs and players alike, please do not hesitate to contact the regional office on 0121 415 8354. The closing date for nominations is February 6th 2012.

<http://www.themall.co.uk/sign-up/mall-champions-nominations.aspx>



Inspired Facilities

Solihull Arden Club provide firm evidence that funding applications really do work! The Warwickshire based club have recently received confirmation that they are set to receive £50 000, courtesy of the Inspired Facilities fund as part of the legacy impact of the London Olympic Games. The financial reward has been offered to fund new changing facilities at the popular club, and it is hoped that this will lead to an influx in squash memberships as a result of enhanced customer experience. On this basis, we would encourage all existing clubs to regularly

check both their local County Sports Partnership, and Sport England's Inspired Facilities page <http://inspiredfacilities.sportengland.org/>, to keep up to date with the latest funding opportunities. If would like to apply but feel assistance is required with the application, please do not hesitate to contact the West Midlands team on 0121 415 8354.

Regional Team Championships

Exciting news! Preparations will soon be under way for the forthcoming Regional Team Championships. The inter-regional event will take place from 31st March—1st April 2012, and will once again be held in the West Midlands. The Munrow Centre (University of Birmingham), Solihull Arden Club and West Warwicks Club will provide the venue for this exciting competition, so please make a note of the date in your diaries and ensure availability should you be selected.



Press Release



Allam British Open Defers Dates To Ease Fixture Congestion

London, Monday 23rd January: England Squash & Racketball (ESR) recently announced that it has deferred by one week the 2012 Allam British Open Championships at the O₂ Piazza. The new dates for the British Open are 14-20 May 2012. The move instigated by ESR, eases congestion on the international schedule, allowing extra preparation time for world's leading players who are competing in both the British Open and the European Team Championships in Germany which conclude on Sunday, 6th May.

ESR Chief Executive, Nick Rider, said, "Both the European Championships and the Allam British Open have increased significance as major showcases for our sport in this Olympic year. When the opportunity arose to push back the Championships by a week, we felt it would be beneficial to many of the leading players to schedule an additional week for recuperation between these two important events."

Allam British Open Tickets Set For Release As Championship Website Goes Live

London, Tuesday 24th January: England Squash & Racketball (ESR) has launched www.britishopensquash.net, a comprehensive visitors' guide to this year's prestigious Allam British Open Squash Championships, London's Piazza at the O₂, 14-20 May 2012.

With tickets starting at £15.00 and reserved seating for a 1000 spectators through afternoon and evening sessions, the British Open features the world's leading squash players and provides a perfect alternative for sports fans who missed out on Olympic ticket allocation. Tickets will be available to purchase from Wednesday (25th January) through www.britishopensquash.net and leading agency, Ticketmaster.

England Squash & Racketball also launches the official logo of the Allam British Open in partnership with title sponsor Allam Marine. Created by Preston-based Design By House, the logo is inspired by three sporting symbols of success, laurels, medal ribbons and the Union flag. Designer Conor Dardis said, "Our aim was to develop a logo that has a sense of triumph and would go on to become an aspirational emblem for everyone involved in the tournament."

Further Information:

David Hood (Allam British Open)

Tel: +44 7803 233689

Scarlett Smith (England Squash & Racketball)

Tel: +44 161 438 4309

RacketBall Revolution at Brough Park

Rose Davies' excellent work throughout Staffordshire has led to a rise in the number of people playing racketball in the region. After connecting with the the Parkwood Leisure site in Leek, Rose, in conjunction with England Squash & Racketball, has introduced the 5 for £5 scheme. This promotional initiative does exactly what it says on the tin— offers participants five hours of racketball coaching with a qualified coach (Rose, in this case!) for just five pounds. The scheme has proved popular in the centre, attracting seven new players per week to enjoy the game of racketball. Following on from the scheme's Sunday morning success, the uptake in racketball appears to be sustainable too! Rose is hoping to build on the success of the scheme by aiming to introduce the racketball as a weekly scheme. If you are interested in getting involved with the scheme, please contact Brough Park on 01538 373 603.



In excess of sixty coaches from England and Scotland attended the second ESR National Coaching Conference in association with Tecnifibre International (Lilleshall National Sports Centre, December 19/20 2011).

Various experts from Squash, the English Institute of Sport, Cricket, and the private sector provided an informative, varied and original perspective on coaching practices. Workshops included, Circuit Training for Squash Performance, Planning for Juniors, Reflections of the Game, Tactical and Technical Golden Guidelines, Effective Personal Development for Coaches and Developing Clubs through Coaches.

Day 1 concluded with a practical coaching session led by ESR High Performance Coach Fiona Geaves and the opportunity for delegates to play against three current England Academy players – Nathan Lake, Ben Coleman and Charles Sharpes in an 'England Chasers v. Rest of the World' mini tournament.

The conference dinner incorporated the ESR Coaching Awards, an initiative designed to acknowledge, thank and reward Squash and Racketball coaches across the country for their dedication, innovation and coaching achievements. Live music from the One Man Banned Rhythm 'n' Blues Review entertained following dinner. Malcolm Willstrop was awarded the Special Recognition Award, a timely honour in the month that James reached World No.1. Malcolm received the award for his particular skill at and commitment to creating an environment for player development at club, regional and elite levels. Paul Bell was named Young Coach of the Year for involving youngsters in the sport and offering a variety of individual programmes. David Hymas received the Participation Coach of the Year primarily for making the game available to a wide range of groups and developing a sustainable schools programme in Bradford. Bob Maison received Club Coach of the Year for tireless work in the Cambridge area and Lee Drew, a key member of the wider ESR Coaching Team was awarded Elite Coach of the Year. All coaches and conference presenters should be acknowledged for their support and commitment to the Coaching Conference."

A Rose in the West Midlands



On a bright note for the West Midlands, our very own Rose Davies received an individual award for the work she has been doing across the West Midlands. The recipient of the ESR Coaches Foundation Award, Rose's notable events that led to this success include the introduction of 'Squacketball'. This is a competition combining both squash and racketball, where teams consist of one squash and one racketball player. These players then compete in their respective matches and the winning team decided by the highest combined

points score. With other local clubs now playing racketball, Rose is hopeful that this combined team format of maybe three squash players and two racketball players will increase the number of inter club fixtures within the county.

Get Involved and Try It Again!

For further information of how you can reignite your squash or racketball game, please visit www.englishsquashandracketball.com for more information on how to 'Try it Again'.





WEST MIDLANDS REGIONAL



RACKETBALL

CLOSED CHAMPIONSHIPS 2012

3-4th March 2012

Venue - Stourbridge LT & SC

Events - A (County/National) and B (Club Standard) Graded Events

Age Groups - O30/ O45/ O50/ O55/ O60/ O65 & O70

*Entries permitting – some events may be combined

Open to players from Worcestershire, Warwickshire, Herefordshire, Shropshire & Staffordshire

Closing Date for Entries: **Monday 20th February**

Entries received after the closing date will not be entered in to the draw

To Enter - Please send completed entry form along with your payment for entry (£15 or £22 for two events)

Cheques made payable to "England Squash & Racketball" Address: Natalie Wilcox, England Squash and Racketball,
West Midlands Regional Office, Munrow Sports Centre, University of Birmingham, Edgbaston, B15 2TT

Tournament Organiser - Rob Shay.

If you have any questions about the event please don't hesitate to contact Rob at:

Email : rob@robshay.co.uk. Tel: 07973 666 184

Open to players from Worcs, Warks, Herefordshire, Shrops & Staffs,

Sponsored by :





WEST MIDLANDS
REGIONAL
RACKETBALL
CLOSED
CHAMPIONSHIPS
2012



3-4th March 2012

At: Stourbridge Lawn Tennis & Squash Club

Open to players from Worcestershire, Warwickshire, Herefordshire, Shropshire & Staffordshire

ENTRY FORM

Return the form below to:

Natalie Wilcox England Squash & Racketball, Munrow Sports Centre, University of Birmingham, Edgbaston, B15 2TT

Please complete in BLOCK CAPITALS:

Full Name:			
Address:			Postcode:
Email:			Contact Number:
County	County Ranking, if known		T-Shirt Size (S,M,L,XL):

I wish to enter (Please Tick):

	MEN	WOMEN
OPEN		
OVER 35		
OVER 40		
OVER 45		
OVER 50		
OVER 55		
OVER 60		
OVER 65		
OVER 70		
B' Section		

Entry Fees: £15 one event, £22 two events. Players may enter a maximum of 2 events

In signing this I accept that I am fit to play, and I also agree to abide by the tournament rules, and conduct.

Signature _____ Date _____

Closing Date for Entries: Monday 20th February

Entries received after the closing date will not be entered in to the draw

The Draws will be notified by e-mail the week before.

For more information contact Rob Shay, on rob@robshay.co.uk or 07973 666 184



**England
Squash &
Racketball**

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talie.wilcox@englandsquashandracketball.com

Website

www.englandsquashandracketball.com

Visit our website for news on coaching courses and other relevant squash and racketball information, both in your Region and Nationally!!!

www.englandsquashandracketball.com

County Associations

Shropshire Squash and Racketball

Website - www.shropshiresquash.com

Warwickshire Squash Racquets Association

Website - www.warwickshiresquash.org

Worcestershire Squash and Racketball Association

Website - www.wsraonline.co.uk

County Sport Partnerships

Sport Across Staffordshire and Stoke on Trent (SASSOT)

Website - www.sportacrossstaffordshire.co.uk

Shropshire (Energize)

Website -

www.shropshiretelfordwrekinsportpartnership.org.uk

Sports Partnerships Herefordshire and Worcestershire

Website - www.morethansport.com

Coventry, Solihull and Warwickshire

Website - www.cswsport.org.uk

The Black Country

Website - www.blackcountryconsortium.co.uk

Birmingham Sport

Website - www.birmingham-sport.org.uk

We hope you have enjoyed reading the West Midlands Regional Newsletter and would gladly welcome any feedback you may have.

Additionally if you have a story or an event that you need promoting in next months newsletter, feel free to send them to natalie.wilcox@englandsquashandracketball.com before the 22nd of each month

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https://twitter.com/#!/ESR_WM



**England
Squash &
Racketball**

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OFFICIAL DEVELOPMENT PARTNER