

EBBISHAM JUNIOR GRADED TOURNAMENT
HELD ON SATURDAY, 25TH NOVEMBER, 2ND & 3RD DECEMBER 2006

Total Number of Participants	<u>114</u> <i>(93 boys, 21 girls)</i>
---	--

DETAILS OF WINNERS AND RUNNERS-UP:

Grade	Winner		Runner Up		Match Score
	Name (Age)	Club	Name (Age)	Club	
C Grade	ED HOPKINS (15)	Henley, Oxfordshire	MICHAEL ROBINSON (14)	Ebbisham, Surrey	2-0
D1 Grade	JACK LEDGER (14)	Ebbisham, Surrey	MICHAEL BURN (13)	PGS, Hampshire	2-0
D2 Grade	SASHKA DREW (14)	Wimbledon RFC, Surrey	MARK HODGES (15)	Limpsfield, Surrey	2-0
E1 Grade	JONATHAN BROWN (11)	Varsity, Surrey	HENRY WITHRINGTON (13)	Canterbury, Kent	2-1
E2 Grade	PRIYEN JANI (13)	Ebbisham, Surrey	GRANT WESTON (14)	Ebbisham, Surrey	2-0
F1 Grade	SEIGO MASUDA (11)	Wimbledon RFC, Surrey	ANGUS WHITE (12)	Ashtead, Surrey	2-0
F2 Grade	EDWARD SMITH (11)	Dorking, Surrey	JAMES HRYNKIEWICZ (12)	Ebbisham, Surrey	2-1
Mini Squash Pro	BEN SKINNER (10)	Lakeside, Surrey	MATT WALSH (11)	Reigate, Surrey	2-0
Mini Squash Improver	THOMAS SANFORD (10)	Colets, Surrey	JAKE NORDLAND (8)	Reigate, Surrey	1-0

TOURNAMENT REPORT

EBBISHAM SPORTS CLUB in Epsom, Surrey, held its fourth Junior Graded Tournament incorporating 9 separate events/grades on Saturday 25th November, Saturday 2nd & 3rd December 2006, generously sponsored for the fourth year running by **ASHAWAY**.

Of the 114 entrants overall, there were 35 entrants from Ebbisham and the rest were from other Clubs such as Ashtead, Cannons West Byfleet, Canterbury (Kent), RAC Epsom, City of London Freemans, Colets, Dorking, Esporta Croydon, Henley (Oxfordshire), Homefield School, Lakeside, Limpsfield, Oxted, PGS/Portsmouth (Hampshire, Purley, Reigate, St. Georges Hill, Storrington (Sussex), Sundridge Park, Surbiton, Surrey Health & RC, Varsity, & Wimbledon RFC.

MINI SQUASH PRO & IMPROVER GRADES - 25th November 2006:

34 children (24 boys and 10 girls) aged between 8-11 years old

JUNIOR GRADED, GRADES C, D1 & D2 - 2nd December 2006:

26 children (22 boys and 4 girls) aged between 11 - 15 years old

JUNIOR GRADED, GRADES E1, E2, F1, F2 - 3rd December 2006:

54 children (46 boys and 8 girls) aged between 8 - 15 years old

Everyone had several round-robin games (American scoring or PAR point per rally to 11 or 15) with the highest overall points scorers going through to the Semi-Finals and then the Finals (best of 3) in each Grade, followed immediately by Presentation of Trophies and Ashaway squash bags to all finalists.

Although the number of girls taking part over the 3 days had reduced slightly to nearly 20%, there was almost a 50/50 split of boys/girls ratio in the Mini Squash Improver tournament on the first day which is an encouraging trend!! Let us hope those girls continue with their squash and their participation will attract other girls into the sport.

The general standard of squash this year was higher than ever and in most grades the battle for the Semi-Final and Final places was so close that it was a matter of 1 point difference either way and only resolved on the last round-robin match played - making the atmosphere exciting for the children and particularly tense for the supportive parents up in the gallery!

This Ebbisham Junior Graded Tournament has grown from a 1-day event in 2003 with 58 entrants, then a 2-day event in 2004 with 104 entries, to 3 days in 2005 with 110 entries and a record number of 114 participants in 2006 over 3 days. With only 3 courts at Ebbisham, advance-planned match scheduling, getting the children to play and go in 2-4 hour 'waves' and lots of volunteer helpers is the key to handling this number of entrants and supporters. How wonderful it would be to have more courts - or even just one more!!

For 2007, we will stick with the 3 day/9 event format but we may have to limit the number of entries in E1, E2, F1 and F2 grades to a maximum of 12 per grade to give them a little more court time!!

Finally, just a few words of thanks:-

- to **ASHAWAY** (i.e. **NICK GOODE OF GOODE SPORT**) who donated some of the fantastic kitbag prizes for Winners & Runners-up
- to **CHALLENGE TROPHIES OF NORTH CHEAM** who supplied the engraved trophies for Winners and Runners-up
- and, last but by no means least, to the **SUPPORTIVE PARENTS, ENTHUSIASTIC VOLUNTEER HELPERS AND THE PATIENT AND WELL-BEHAVED CHILDREN** themselves who helped to make the event run so smoothly!

JO ROBINSON

Tournament Organiser & Junior Squash Co-ordinator,
Ebbisham Sports Club
Epsom
Surrey