

Serve and Volley

With Totally Tennis Basingstoke



Young stars shine at a talent ID day

EIGHT Totally Tennis Mini Performance players were selected to attend a talent ID day held at the David Lloyd Club in Southampton.

Aaron Dawson, Daniel Prickett and Chris Adeshina were all selected in the under-seven Red age group, while Eliza Wheeler, Dean Cooper Kirby, Hannah Smith, Max Guibeleguiet and Ben Eaton were all invited to attend the under-eight Orange event.

All the players had tennis tests to examine their technique under pressure both on their forehands and backhands, and also some serving tests.

This was followed by some match play to assess each player's level of competitiveness.

All the players were also tested physically in terms of their agility (cone test), speed (20 metre sprint), power (standing broad jump) and their ball throw

Head coach Oli Meager also attended the event as support for the players and their parents. He said: "All of the players put in a great effort on the day, and proved why the Totally Tennis Mini Tennis Performance Program is working so well.

"Well done to all the players for all of their hard work."



● Hannah Smith and Eliza Wheeler.

Player profile

BEN EATON



Age: Eight
Squad: Orange
How old were you when you started playing? Two
How were you introduced to Tennis? By my dad
What made you come and play at TT? My friend told me about it
Who is your favourite tennis player? Rafael Nadal
What do you like most about the sport? Hitting serves
What do you consider say was your best shot? My serve
How often do you play? Four times a week
Do you play anything else apart from tennis other? Judo, swimming and football
What is your greatest tennis achievement? Just playing

Smith takes all Totally Tennis final

IT HAS been a very busy first few weeks of 2012 for some of the Totally Tennis Mini Tennis Performance players, who have been out and about competing throughout southern England.

In the all Totally Tennis final in the Portsmouth Grade Four Girls event, mini performance player Hannah Smith won and teammate Eliza Wheeler was in the runner-up spot.

In the group stages, Smith beat Lucy McCann 7-2, 7-1 and Wheeler 7-3, 7-4, while Wheeler defeated McCann 7-1, 7-5.

In the elimination round the two girls were joined by Box B winner Sophia Hurron and runner-up Alana Unitt.

Smith beat Unitt in their semi-final match 7-2, 8-6 and Wheeler beat Hurron 8-6, 11-9 in their encounter. In the final Smith won 7-4, 7-4 against Wheeler.

Smith then went on to claim the runner-up spot in the nine and under girls

singles Grade Four event at Eastbourne.

She won Box A, defeating Emily Gordon 7-2, 7-1, Cydney Crumble 13-11, 7-2 and Georgia-Red Fielder-van Kleff 7-1, 7-3.

In the semi-final she beat Roberta Vine in a three setter 7-9, 7-3, 7-5 but lost out in the final to Morgan Rixon 7-5, 7-3.

Daniel Prickett was the champion at the Don Perrin Tennis Red County eight and under mixed singles tournament, with teammates Jasmine Bromilow and Daniel Mackley also competing.

Prickett defeated Nicholas Moore 10-7, Bromilow 10-2, Thomas Moore 10-6, Adam Paterson 10-2, Nikita Korshunenkov 10-4 and Luke Dixon 10-7 in the group stage to progress to the final.

Bromilow beat Paterson 10-8.

In the second box Mackley beat Freddy Tween 10-6 and Harriet Riches 10-6 but the box



● Daniel Prickett.

winner was Toby Blackwell, who Prickett defeated in the final 10-5 to win the event overall.

In the first of two Kingsley Orange County Tour nine and under mixed singles events, Jonathan Duggan finished runner-up. Duggan completed alongside club-mates Wheeler, Ben Eaton, Jed Voysey and Ben Lee Martinez, three of who fell victim to overall winner Theo Deasy.

In the second event

Smith was placed third overall competing alongside Voysey, Eaton and Adam Shair.

Duggan then claimed the runners-up medal at the nine and under boys singles Grade 4 event held at The Royal County of Berkshire Health and Rackets club after a three-set battle in the final.

After a bye in round one, Duggan beat Robert Leemans in the quarter-final 8-6, 9-7 followed by Jonathan Trist in the semis 7-1, 7-4.

His final opponent was Nikolai Marin, who won the first set 9-7. Duggan fought back to take the second set 8-6 but lost in the third 7-1.

At the nine and under boys singles Grade 4 event held at the White Horse Tennis Centre, in Abingdon, Duggan was placed fourth overall after some great matches.

He made it through to the semi-final stage after coming runner-up in Box B, beating Alexander

Smith 7-4, 7-3 and Zach Lion-Cachet 7-3, 7-1 but losing to box winner Will Taylor 7-4, 11-9.

Oliver Tarret defeated him in their semi-final match 7-2, 7-5 and Duggan found himself back up against Taylor in the third/fourth play-off but he was unlucky for a second time that day, losing a hard fought match with a 7-4, 9-11, 9-7 scoreline.

Tennis Director Nigel Long said: "What a fantastic opening month of the year for the Totally Tennis Mini Tennis Performance players, not only in terms of results but also in sheer number of players competing in lots of events throughout the south.

"It is a great testament to both the players and their parents that a core group of players are competing in lots of events. I cannot emphasise enough how important playing in regular competition is to a player's development and confidence."

Tennis Talk

BRITISH number one Andy Murray was knocked-out in the semi-finals of the Australian Open by World number one Novak Djokovic.

In a repeat of the 2011 final, the pair played out a thriller which lasted nearly five hours on Friday before Murray lost 6-3, 3-6, 6-7, 6-1, 7-5 in Melbourne.

Djokovic, pictured, then went onto beat Rafael Nadal 5-7, 6-4, 6-4, 7-5 in the final to retain his title.

