

SQUASH IRELAND

ANNUAL REPORT 2025



21st Annual General Meeting of Irish Squash Federation CLG. | Saturday, June 13, 2026
Report of the Board for 2025/2026 | Incorporating Provincial Associations Reports

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Message From Our President

Dear Members and Stakeholders,

It is a pleasure to present my President's Report for the 2025–2026 Squash Ireland Annual General Meeting and to reflect on another important year in the continued development of our organisation.

Throughout the past year, our Strategic Plan, *Connecting the Dots 2022-2027*, has continued to provide a clear framework for decision making and priority setting across Squash Ireland. The values underpinning this strategy remain central to how we govern, support and grow the sport at all levels.

From a governance perspective, the Board has remained focused on its strategic oversight role, ensuring that Squash Ireland is well positioned for long term sustainability. Ongoing attention to governance standards, transparency and accountability has strengthened the organisation. The contribution of Board members, along with the insights provided by our wider governance and advisory structures, continues to be invaluable.

Operationally, the organisation continues to evolve in order to meet the needs of our membership which is growing year on year since 2022. Our staff team, led by the CEO Scott Graham, has worked diligently to support core activities, deliver strategic priorities and enhance our engagement with clubs, volunteers and partners. This work is complemented by the dedication of our volunteers, at local, provincial and national level, whose commitment remains fundamental to the success of squash in Ireland. Our Annual Awards event is a particular highlight of our calendar in which we acknowledge and celebrate the work of standout clubs, volunteers, coaches and referees. Supporting and valuing this community remains a key focus for Squash Ireland.

At both domestic and international level, Squash Ireland continues to demonstrate resilience and ambition. Increased participation and competition across all age groups and levels is evident, new data on third level and community programme engagement is particularly encouraging. Our elite squash players are making their mark on PSA world rankings, currently 3 Irish players are in the top 100. Squash Ireland high performance structures have become a strong foundation to support our athletes and will continue to evolve with a keen focus on the European Games in 2027 and the Olympic Games in LA28. In this regard, we are building on our integration with Sport Ireland's national high performance system, the Sport Northern Ireland Institute and as members of the Olympic Federation of Ireland.



Rosie Barry
President Squash Ireland





A significant milestone was the introduction of gender parity at the U17 European Team Championships (ETC) this year, matching the format of teams across ETC U19 and all junior teams in the annual 5 Nations competition. It is notable that the European Squash Federation is investing in programmes focussed on improving female coach development and a new female leadership initiative - Squash Ireland is linked closely with this strategy.

Our Masters circuit continues to thrive with participation numbers increasing across all age groups again this season and especially in the novice events for new female masters players. Competition for selection on Home International teams was intense and well-earned.

We remain proud of all those who represent Squash Ireland at junior, senior and masters levels and we are very grateful to the families and support networks who play such an important role behind the scenes.

As an all-island sporting organisation, we truly value the support from our funding partners Sport Ireland and Sport Northern Ireland. Essential collaboration with and support for our four provincial associations through the interprovincial forum (IPF) is further enabled this year through the efforts of our community development officers. Squash Ireland continues to work in partnership with the Federation of Irish Sport, European Squash Federation, World Squash and the Professional Squash Association.

As we reflect on the year just passed, it is clear that progress is best achieved through collective effort. I would like to sincerely thank everyone who has contributed to Squash Ireland over the past twelve months. This includes the Board, our staff, coaches, referees, volunteers, players, parents, sponsors and partners. Your passion for squash and your commitment to the organisation continue to drive us forward.

I invite you now to read the in-depth reports within this document in advance of the 2026 AGM where the Board and staff members will look forward to answering your questions.

Equally, should any area of interest within our sporting organisation appeal to you from a volunteer or professional perspective, please do contact us!

Thank you all for your ongoing support and I look forward to the 2026-2027 season ahead.

Chief Executive Officer Report



As I reflect on 2025, it is clear that Squash Ireland has made substantial strides across all areas of the organisation. From growing participation and strengthening our club network to advancing our high-performance ambitions, this year has been defined by progress, even bigger and bolder ambitions, and a shared commitment building foundations for the betterment of the sport.

Volunteers, coaches, and club officials are the engine room of our growth. It was wonderful to celebrate just some of these individuals at our 2025 Awards Evening, shining a light on the incredible work they do to ensure people fall in love with the sport and stay involved at all ages and stages of life. 2025 marked the midpoint of our Connecting the Dots Strategic Plan, and I am pleased to report that we remain laser-focused on delivery. We are on target in the vast majority of areas and, in some cases, ahead of schedule, providing an opportunity to set even more ambitious targets for the years ahead.

A major highlight of 2025 has been the progress within high performance. As I write this update, we have two plaques as men's and women's champions from the European Team Championships Division 2 and, for the first time in 17 years, three Irish players ranked inside the PSA Top 100. From an organisational perspective, we published our first High Performance Strategy and gained recognition as a High Performance Development Sport from Sport Ireland. This has unlocked new funding opportunities and expertise from both Sport Ireland and Sport Northern Ireland.

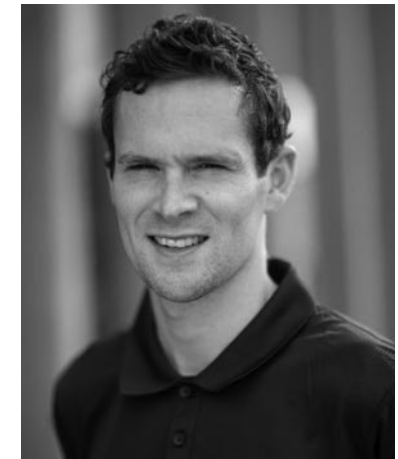
We have strengthened our High Performance Unit with the appointment of a Head Coach, Junior Performance Coach, and Junior Development Coach, and reformed our High Performance Working Group, chaired by Angus Kirkland and

bringing in expertise including Aisling Blake, Ken Flynn and Paris 2024 Lead Physio Paul Carragher. Several senior players have benefited from direct funding through Sport Northern Ireland Athlete Awards and Squash Ireland support, enabling them to train and compete at an elite level.

At pathway level, we established the Junior Performance Academy, which will continue to be refined to support committed young players in making the transition to elite professional squash.

On the participation front, 2025 was a strong year, with increased engagement across the sport and continued growth in membership numbers by 10.6%. This builds on the momentum of previous seasons where we recorded a 11.45% increase for 2024/25 and reflects the strength of our clubs and programmes nationwide. Tournament entries also showed strong growth, with record participation in events such as the Irish Masters Open and the Irish Junior Open.

The Irish Open continues to go from strength to strength, with the 2025 edition delivered successfully at PSA World Tour Copper status. With an \$83,000 prize fund and a strong international field, including several of the world's top-ranked players, it remains one of the most significant sporting events of its kind in Ireland. My thanks go to Tournament Director Dara O'Flynn, host club Fitzwilliam Lawn Tennis Club, and our title sponsors Quilter Cheviot and Cannon Kirk for their continued support in delivering an internationally respected event. At the grassroots level, we saw the introduction of new divisions across the provincial leagues, alongside an increase in the number of clubs entering teams. Participation in leagues and internal club competitions continues to play a vital role in retention, with players enjoying the camaraderie and social aspects of the sport.



Scott Graham | Chief Executive Officer
Squash Ireland

2025 also saw the rollout of Social Tournaments, led by our Development team. Through seed funding support, clubs were empowered to deliver inclusive, social events. The programme reached over 400 women across 17 venues nationwide, providing accessible opportunities to engage with squash and strengthening female participation in the sport.

In terms of club development, one of the highlights for me personally was delivering junior equipment packs and squash cannons to clubs such as Ballypatrick and Celtic. While significant work goes on behind the scenes to secure these supports, seeing the impact at club level, particularly the excitement of young players, makes it all worthwhile. I am proud that Squash Ireland continues to lead in the provision of equipment support to clubs, and this will remain a priority.

When I started in the role, members bemoaned the lack of visibility, with sporadic updates posted to the website and a limited presence on social media. The website was near impossible to use on mobile, which we all know is essential in the digital age. Through the appointment of Liam Heagney as part-time Communications Officer, we have vastly improved the visibility of squash. It is regularly remarked upon how active our social media accounts are, with engagement levels now ranking towards the top compared to other sports national governing bodies. In fact, as I check our statistics, I note a new

record of over 200,000 views on Squash Ireland's Instagram page in the past 30 days, an impressive statistic by any measure.

The new website we developed and launched at the end of 2024, combined with the professionalism of our Communications Officer in producing engaging articles and interviews, has seen the number of active users increase by 40%.

Looking ahead, the next phase of development will focus on continuing to strengthen the foundations of Squash Ireland as a National Governing Body and increasing our impact in terms of driving membership growth, participation in squash, and performance internationally and at major events. One exciting development is the planned recruitment of part-time Squash Activation Officers in each province to drive participation, particularly at junior level. This will increase our capacity to support clubs in developing and growing their junior sections, delivering squash programmes within schools, and reaching new audiences, including those from disadvantaged communities and disability groups. I am really looking forward to seeing our Squash Activation Officers begin their roles and share their passion for the sport with the next generation.



3

first time in 17 years, three Irish players ranked inside the PSA Top 100



In terms of systems and technology, you will see us develop an enhanced membership system and integrate more seamlessly with platforms such as Squash Levels to provide richer data and insights. We are also aiming to deliver more benefits as part of the membership package offered by Squash Ireland. We are also working on an events strategy to build on recent progress, including the growth of provincial leagues and the increased status of PSA tournaments on the island of Ireland.

While we have seen progress on the high-performance front, we have much loftier ambitions. We will continue working hard to support players with the potential and work ethic required to compete at an elite level. We are also working with our funders and partners to plan for major events, including the 2027 European Games and LA 2028. In addition, an application has been submitted to Government to secure tax relief on donations to our high-performance programme, which we hope will unlock new philanthropic support.

Regarding facilities, we are progressing plans for a National Squash Centre in partnership with South Dublin County Council, alongside ongoing support for clubs to enhance facilities through the Community Sports Facilities Fund and other national and local capital funding programmes. I would encourage that all clubs within the Republic of Ireland make an application under the next round of the Community Sport Facilities Fund.

Finally, I would like to thank our funders, sponsors, donors, Board members, staff, and the wider squash community for their continued support. Everyone plays their part in growing the sport and in the success we have achieved to date. Having worked in several different sports, I can say with confidence that Squash is special, and we have huge potential for further growth at grassroots level and for greater success on the world stage.



Scott Graham | Chief Executive Officer Squash Ireland





SQUASH BOND NEDERLAND
2nd PLACE
EUROPEAN SQUASH
EUROPEAN TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS 2026

SQUASH BOND NEDERLAND
1st PLACE
EUROPEAN SQUASH
EUROPEAN TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS 2026

SQUASH BOND NEDERLAND
3rd PLACE
EUROPEAN SQUASH
EUROPEAN TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS 2026



Club Survey Highlights from 2025

Club Survey 2025 Summary

The 2025 Club Survey provides a positive picture of squash across Ireland, with 58 affiliated clubs responding from across the island. The findings show a sport with strong underlying demand, growing female engagement, improving club structures, and clear ambition around junior development, coaching and facilities.



Affiliated Membership Conversion

While detailed affiliated membership growth is reported separately, the survey highlights an important trend that clubs are converting a greater proportion of their players into Squash Ireland members. The 2025 survey shows a 66.67% conversion rate from club players to Squash Ireland affiliated members, representing a slight increase on last year. This is an important marker of progress, showing that the connection between local club activity and the national squash community is strengthening. It also supports better visibility, governance, insurance, competition pathways and long-term development planning.



Club Demand and Capacity

Demand for squash remains clear, with 12 clubs now reporting that they are at capacity, compared with 3 last year. This creates challenges around court access and scheduling, but it is also a strong indicator of the sport's growing appeal. The focus for Squash Ireland is to help clubs respond to this demand through facility planning, funding guidance, participation pathways and support for sustainable growth.



Governance and Leadership

There has been notable progress in club development and governance. At the time of the survey, 50 clubs reported having established committees, while 42 had written constitutions. Since then, Squash Ireland has made both requirements mandatory for affiliation, meaning that 100% of affiliated clubs now have an established committee and written constitution in place. This represents an important step forward in strengthening transparency, accountability and long-term sustainability across the club network. Core roles such as chairperson, secretary and treasurer are widely filled, and many clubs are expanding responsibilities to include safeguarding, communications, development and Women in Sport leadership. Volunteer capacity remains a challenge for some clubs, but the overall trend is towards stronger and more sustainable club structures.



Junior Development

Junior development remains a major priority. Thirty clubs currently run junior sections, and 53% of clubs without a junior section intend to start one. This demonstrates a strong appetite to grow the game among young players. However, clubs continue to need support with coaching availability, programme structure, equipment, safeguarding guidance and school links. Squash Ireland will continue to support this through junior frameworks, schools engagement, camps, girls' programmes and resources for clubs starting or expanding junior activity.



Coaching Capacity

Coaching remains central to future growth. Forty clubs reported having a qualified coach, and 37.5% have four or more internal coaches. This is a positive base, but provision varies significantly, with many clubs still seeking greater access to coaching support.

Clubs identified funding, coach availability, court access and beginner-focused support as key needs. Squash Ireland's continued investment in coach education, regional coaching development and volunteer support will be important in addressing these gaps.



Inclusion and Women in Sport

One of the strongest areas of progress is inclusion. More than half of clubs, 52.5%, now actively promote inclusivity, up from 40% last year. Women in Sport programmes have grown significantly, from 28% of clubs in 2024 to 60.7% in 2025. Clubs are delivering women's sessions, girls' coaching, social squash, structured coaching and competitive opportunities, while also beginning to increase female representation in coaching and leadership.

Squash Ireland will continue to build on this momentum through Women in Sport initiatives, inclusive coaching resources, leadership development and shared best practice.



Facilities and Infrastructure

Facilities are another clear area of ambition. Thirty-seven clubs plan to carry out maintenance works in the next 12 months, with many also considering larger upgrades such as court refurbishment, improved lighting, heating, changing rooms, glass backs and new court development.

These plans show that clubs are actively investing in the future of the sport. Squash Ireland will continue to support clubs through funding guidance, facility planning, advocacy and infrastructure support.



Conclusion & Direction

The survey confirms that Squash Ireland's strategic priorities are closely aligned with club needs. Clubs want to strengthen coaching, develop juniors, increase female participation, improve facilities, grow affiliated membership and raise the visibility of squash locally and nationally. Overall, the 2025 Club Survey shows a sport with strong foundations, growing ambition and clear opportunities.

The challenges identified are the natural pressures of a sport with increasing demand. With continued support in coaching, junior development, Women in Sport, inclusion, communications and facilities, squash in Ireland is well positioned for sustainable and inclusive growth.



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Operational

Membership and Affiliation

The 2025/26 season has delivered another strong year of affiliated membership growth for Squash Ireland. With several months still remaining in the affiliation window, total affiliated membership has already reached 3,727, representing a 10.6% increase on last season. Regionally, growth was recorded across all four provinces, with Connacht up 19.64%, Munster up 3%, Leinster up 10% and Ulster up 12%. This broad-based increase shows that affiliation growth is not isolated to one area, but is being felt across the island. This continued upward trend reflects stronger engagement across the squash community and further progress in connecting club activity with formal Squash Ireland affiliation.

A particularly encouraging feature of this year's membership growth is the increase among younger members. Junior affiliation has risen from 629 to 728, an increase of 99 junior members (15.74%). This is a major positive indicator for the long-term health of the sport and reflects the sustained work being carried out to strengthen junior pathways, increase club support, develop youth-focused activity and create more accessible entry points for young players. Growth has also been especially strong within the student category, which has increased from 132 to 214 members, a 62% rise on last season. This is a significant step forward and aligns closely with the recent support secured for Intervarsities through Student Sport Ireland and the inclusion of squash within their framework. It also reflects the wider ambition to strengthen the bridge between

junior, student and adult participation, helping to retain players through key transition points in the sport.

These trends strongly support the direction of Squash Ireland's recent brand refresh. A key objective of the rebrand was to make squash feel more visible, modern and accessible, particularly to younger audiences. The growth in junior and student membership, alongside improved reach through social media and online platforms, suggests that this work is beginning to have a clear impact. Squash is increasingly being seen by young people as an energetic, social and welcoming sport with opportunities to participate at every level.

Competitive membership has also grown strongly, increasing from 1,229 to 1,379, including 45 social members upgrading to competitive membership. This demonstrates that more players are moving along the pathway from casual participation into competition, leagues and events. Social membership has remained strong, rising from 1,310 to 1,384, underlining the continued importance of squash as a recreational and community-based sport. A further 13 members were recorded in other categories.

Breakdown of 25/26 Affiliation by Membership Type

5.7%

Students

19.5%

Juniors

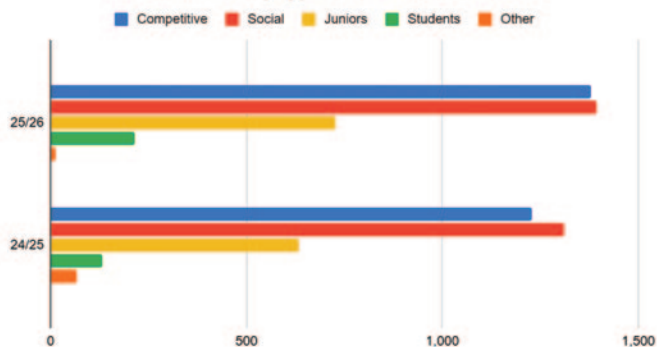
37.4%

Social

37%

Competitive

Breakdown of members types -24/25



At club level, the picture is highly positive. 45 of the 66 affiliated clubs recorded an increase in members this season, a significant achievement and a clear sign of stronger engagement across the club network. In addition, 22 clubs recorded increases in junior membership, which is particularly encouraging given the emphasis placed on junior development over recent seasons. This shows that growth is not limited to a small number of larger clubs, but is being felt across a broad section of the squash community.

Squash Ireland also maintained 66 affiliated clubs, matching last season's total. While the number of clubs remains steady, the growth within clubs is an important marker of progress. The focus this season has been on deepening engagement, improving compliance, strengthening governance and ensuring that more players within affiliated clubs are formally connected to Squash Ireland. As part of this work, Squash Ireland made both an established committee and a written club constitution mandatory for

club affiliation. This has been a crucial step in improving governance, accountability and safeguarding across the affiliated club network. It ensures that every affiliated club has appropriate structures in place to support safe, transparent and sustainable development.

Overall, the 2025/26 affiliation picture is one of strong progress. Membership is up, junior and student numbers are growing significantly, competitive participation is increasing, and clubs are becoming more structured and better connected to the national body. The growth among younger members is particularly important, showing that the sport is reaching new audiences and building a stronger foundation for the future.

Importantly, Squash Ireland has also made progress in converting club players into affiliated members. The conversion rate has increased from 62% last season to 66.7% this season, demonstrating improved alignment between club participation and national affiliation. This is a positive step in strengthening governance, insurance coverage, data accuracy and the overall connection between clubs, players and Squash Ireland.

With the affiliation window still open, Squash Ireland is well placed to build further on this momentum. Continued focus on juniors, students, digital reach and club support will be key to sustaining this growth and keeping squash accessible, relevant and attractive to the next generation.

Tiernan Harris
Administrator – Squash Ireland

10%

Total affiliated membership has already reached 3,727, representing increase on last season

Regionally, growth was recorded across all four provinces, with

Connacht

19.64% ▲

Ulster

12% ▲

Leinster

10% ▲

Munster

3% ▲

Tournaments, Leagues and Events



The 2025/26 season kicked off in July 2025, with the Waterford Masters Open; however planning for the season had begun in the early stages of 2025. The Squash Ireland team saw the addition of Aaron Johnson, as Events Manager. This increased the operational support, alongside existing staff members; Paul Nugent (COO) and Tiernan Harris (Administrator). Many of the key changes for 2025/26 took place behind the scenes, with key amendments to tournament guidelines and technical regulations.

A focus was also placed on securing stronger working relationships with the ESF and WSF in relation to the hosting of major events in Ireland. Additionally, closer ties have been developed with domestic stakeholders, such as Sport Ireland and The Olympic Federation of Ireland. These strengthened partnerships will see improved funding, for example, the Irish Open will receive vital Sport Ireland funding for 2026.

| Tournament Name | 2025-26 | | 2024-25 | | 2023-24 | |
|-------------------------------------|------------|--------------|------------|--------------|------------|----------|
| Irish Junior Open | 162 | 22.73% | 132 | 3.13% | 128 | - |
| Irish Junior National Championships | 101 | 0.00% | 101 | 9.78% | 92 | - |
| Leinster Junior Open | 118 | 12.38% | 105 | -7.08% | 113 | - |
| Munster Junior Open | 100 | -6.54% | 107 | 38.96% | 77 | - |
| Ulster Junior Open | 99 | -4.81% | 104 | -1.89% | 106 | - |
| Connacht Junior Open | 103 | 6.19% | 97 | 7.78% | 90 | - |
| TOTAL | 683 | 5.73% | 646 | 6.60% | 606 | - |



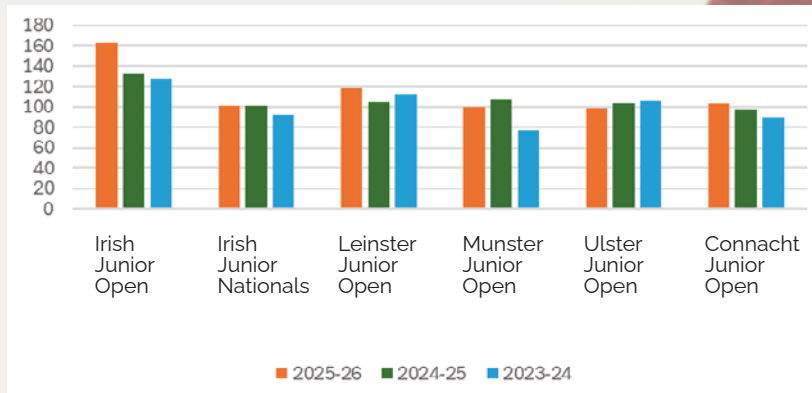
Junior

The Junior Tour ran from September to January, culminating in the Junior National Championships (Highfield SC & Sundays Well SC). A series of regional junior tournaments were held across the provincial associations, with the aim of increasing participation across younger age groups.

Ireland played host to two major junior tournaments; those being the Irish Junior Open and Junior Five Nations. Both tournaments were held at Sutton LTC and welcomed some of the top junior talent from across Europe.

For the second consecutive year, we have witnessed an increase in entry numbers across Junior Tournaments, with a 5.73% increase in participation over the previous season.

Junior Open Tournament entries Y on Y



5.73%

increase in entry numbers across Junior Tournaments over the previous season.



Senior

| | | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|--|---|
| Quilter Cheviot Cannon Kirk Irish Open | West of Ireland | 15k Challenger IACT Fitzwilliam Squash Ireland Ladies PSA | IACT Fitzwilliam PSA Men's Satellite |
| PSA Copper | Open | 3k | Satellite |
| PSA Curragh Senior Open 2025 | PSA Mount Pleasant Senior Open 2026 | Irish Senior National Championships 2026 | PSA Limerick Senior Open 2026 |
| Satellite | Satellite | Satellite | Satellite |

The Senior Tour got off to a strong start in Munster, concluding with the Senior National Championships, which was won by both Men's and Women's Irish number 1's; Sam Buckley and Hannah Craig. The Senior Tour was supported by an increase in PSA Satellite and Challenger Events, ranging from €3k to €15k.

These tournaments played a key role in supporting domestic players, and act as a channel for future talent looking to compete in future editions of the Irish Open. The latter was given a significant boost, with the promotion to Copper PSA status, which it will hold into the 2026 edition.





Masters

69

Waterford Masters Open

58

Limerick Masters Open

143

Irish Masters Open

88

Ulster Masters Open

94

Connacht Masters Open

122

Munster Masters Open

138

Leinster Masters Open

154

Irish Masters National Championships

60

Sligo Masters Open

86

Masters Home Internationals

An eight-round series of the Masters Tour was the highlight of the season, running alongside the Irish Masters Open (GP) and The Masters Home Internationals, the latter played host to the MO40, MO60, WO35/40 & WO60 categories over a wind-swept weekend at Galway LTC.

The Masters Tour featured a mix of smaller scale events, such as the Sligo and Waterford Masters Open, alongside major events such as the Masters National Championships. All tournaments saw a healthy increase in entry numbers, owing to the growth in Masters Squash.

No matter what your age,
there's joy in playing!!

LLTC Masters Squash Player

Provincial Leagues

Connacht Sligo on 24 January and Galway on 21 February. Sligo SC won Division 1, while Westport SC were the winners of Division 2.

Leinster Fitzwilliam LTC had a very strong men's league campaign, winning the Premier Division, Division 1, Division 2 and Division 6. Curragh SC won Division 3, while Leinster CC claimed Division 4/5. In the men's cup competitions, Fitzwilliam LTC won the Premier, Division 2 and Division 3 titles. Sutton LTC won Division 1, Leinster CC won Division 4/5, and Junction 6 SC won Division 6. In the Leinster women's competitions: Sutton LTC won both the Premier League and Premier Cup. Mount Pleasant LTC won Division 1 and Division 2 in both the League and Cup. Leinster CC also completed a double in the Saturday League, winning both the League and Cup titles.

Munster Celtic SC won Men's Division 1. Thurles SC had a particularly strong season, winning Division 2, Division 2A, Division 5A and Division 6. Gleneagle SC won Division 2B and Division 5B. Celtic SC also won Division 3A. Limerick LTC won Division 3B and Division 4, Killenaule SC claimed Division 4A, and Highfield SC won Division 4B. Three Rivers League: Ballypatrick SC won Men's Division 1. Killenaule SC won Division 2 Round 1, Galmoy SC won Division 2 Round 2.

Ulster Banbridge won the South and East A Cup, Ballynafeigh claimed the B Cup, Ballymena secured the C Cup. In the Ulster Men's South and East League: Belfast BC won the Premier Division and Division 2. Lisburn RC won Division 1. In the Cup Banbridge won the Premier title, In the Ulster North and West League, Foyle won Division 1.

Paul Nugent
Chief Operating Officer – Squash Ireland

Aaron Johnson
Events & High Performance Logistics Manager – Squash Ireland



Development

Equality, Diversity, Inclusion & Women in Sport

2025/26 was a year of significant progress for the Development function within Squash Ireland. Across Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) and Women in Sport (WIS), the organisation continued to strengthen participation pathways, support clubs and volunteers, expand partnerships, and create more welcoming and accessible opportunities for people to engage with squash across Ireland.

Guided by the Squash Ireland Women in Sport Strategy and our Diversity, Inclusion and Equality Policy, much of this work focused on turning long-term strategic ambitions into practical programmes and visible activity within clubs and communities. While there remains important work ahead, the year demonstrated growing momentum and a stronger national foundation for inclusive participation and development.



1. Club Development

Supporting clubs remained central to the Development strategy throughout 2025/26. Squash Ireland continued to work closely with affiliated clubs to strengthen governance, participation structures, safeguarding standards, volunteer support, and inclusive practice.

The organisation further developed relationships with clubs delivering activity for women, juniors, disadvantaged communities, and new participants, while also strengthening collaboration with Local Sports Partnerships and community organisations nationwide. New and expanding relationships with partners including Sporting Pride and Active Disability Ireland supported the continued growth of inclusive programmes and helped clubs access new ideas, networks, and participation opportunities.

The appointment of a dedicated Safeguarding Officer during the summer period marked another important step forward, with clubs and provincial associations receiving increased support in welfare management, safeguarding education, and the creation of safe and welcoming environments for all participants.

During the year, Squash Ireland also continued to support In4Squash and played a key role in the delivery of the European LGBTQIA+ Squash Open in Dublin, reinforcing the organisation's commitment to ensuring squash is open and accessible to all communities.

2. Participation

Participation growth across EDI and Women in Sport programmes represented one of the strongest areas of progress during the year.

Building on successful pilot activity in 2024 and early 2025, HIIT Squash programmes continued to expand nationally, providing accessible, social, and fitness-focused opportunities for women and beginner participants. These programmes have proven particularly successful in creating welcoming entry points for people with little or no previous experience of squash, while also helping clubs develop confidence in delivering female-focused activity.

The Social Squash Tour also expanded significantly during 2025/26, with 12+ one-day social tournaments delivered nationwide. The programme maintained a strong focus on women and juvenile female participation and continued to provide enjoyable and supportive environments for beginners and improvers.

Squash Ireland continued to invest in teacher education and beginner-friendly programme design to help ensure squash becomes more accessible to school-aged participants, particularly girls.

3. Leadership

Leadership development continued to emerge as an increasingly important component of Squash Ireland's Women in Sport strategy.

Building on the success of the Women in Sport Leadership Programme delivered previously, women across the squash community continued to take on greater responsibility within clubs, committees, and provincial structures throughout the year. This progress reflected a growing recognition that sustainable participation growth requires stronger female representation in decision-making environments across the sport.

Alongside practical club support and mentoring activity, Squash Ireland also intensified planning around the creation of a more structured national leadership pathway for women. The proposed programme will focus on governance education, mentoring, confidence-building, networking, and progression opportunities for current and emerging female leaders within squash.

Visibility also played an important role in leadership development during the year. Through enhanced communications activity, the organisation increasingly highlighted women leading within clubs, programmes, coaching environments, and community initiatives, helping create more visible and relatable role models throughout the sport.



4. Coaching

Coach and workforce development remained another major focus throughout 2025/26.

A key milestone during the year was the development and launch of the new Introductory "DOT Squash" coaching award. Positioned as Squash Ireland's Level 0 offering within the Sport Ireland Coach Development Pathway for Ireland (CDPI), the programme provides practical and accessible resources for coaches working with children, schools, and beginner adult players. Following a successful tutor launch in Belfast in February, further deliveries are planned nationwide throughout 2026.

Squash Ireland also continued to focus specifically on supporting women and girls through coach education initiatives. An online "Coaching Teenage Girls" workshop delivered during the year engaged coaches and club volunteers from across the country and explored practical approaches to confidence-building, retention, participation, and inclusive coaching environments for young female players.

Recognising that female coaching participation remains an ongoing challenge across sport, the organisation continued to consult with clubs and participants to better understand barriers to involvement and identify practical supports that can encourage more women to enter and remain within coaching pathways.

The Development function was further strengthened through the appointment of a Communications and Social Media Officer, part-funded through Women in Sport and Dormant Accounts support. The role has already contributed significantly to the visibility and promotion of development initiatives, club activity, female participation, and inclusion-focused programmes across the organisation's digital platforms.

5. Policy

Throughout the year, Squash Ireland continued to align its development activity closely with both the Women in Squash Policy and the Diversity, Inclusion and Equality Policy.

These policies have increasingly become practical working frameworks that shape programme design, funding priorities, club support activity, coach education, safeguarding practice, and communications. During 2025/26, the organisation placed particular emphasis on ensuring inclusion principles were embedded across all stages of programme delivery rather than treated as standalone initiatives.

The organisation also continued to strengthen collaboration with external partners and other National Governing Bodies, including Tennis Ireland, Badminton Ireland, and Table Tennis Ireland through the X4 Rackets initiative, alongside ongoing engagement with Local Sports Partnerships and community organisations.

This growing network of partnerships is helping Squash Ireland build stronger pathways into the sport while also ensuring programmes align with wider national priorities around inclusion, participation, safeguarding, and community development.

6. Looking Ahead to 2026/27

Looking ahead, Squash Ireland aims to build on the strong foundations established over the past two years by continuing to expand participation opportunities, strengthen club environments, and embed inclusion across all areas of the sport. Within EDI, priorities for 2026/27 include expanding outreach into DEIS schools and underserved communities, strengthening relationships with disability and inclusion organisations, broadening the reach of beginner and social participation programmes, and continuing to enhance safeguarding, volunteer education, and club development supports. Within Women in Sport, the organisation plans to introduce enhanced national programmes focused on female leadership development, coaching and officiating pathways, participation growth, and visibility. These initiatives will place particular emphasis on mentoring, education, peer support, and confidence-building for women and girls throughout the sport.

Across both strands of work, the focus remains on creating long-term, sustainable change that ensures squash becomes increasingly welcoming, accessible, and representative of communities across Ireland.



Marketing and Communications

Squash Ireland has strengthened and expanded its social media presence this past year (May 2025 to April 2026) through the continued use of a part-time social media manager.

At the core of developing an inclusive communications content cycle for the federation and its community has been a commitment to providing a coordinated brand approach across the best-performing platforms.

With squash becoming an Olympic sport and Squash Ireland being promoted to full member status in the Olympic Federation of Ireland last summer, there is now a wider appetite for squash content and our numbers demonstrate this.

After a period of testing last summer to assess where people were most active, Instagram and Facebook were the two platforms most suited to getting the Squash Ireland message out to the public.

Across 12 months, the Squash Ireland Instagram channel enjoyed 1,561,000 views of its content – a monthly average of 130K views – that included 305 reels and 1,1135 posts.

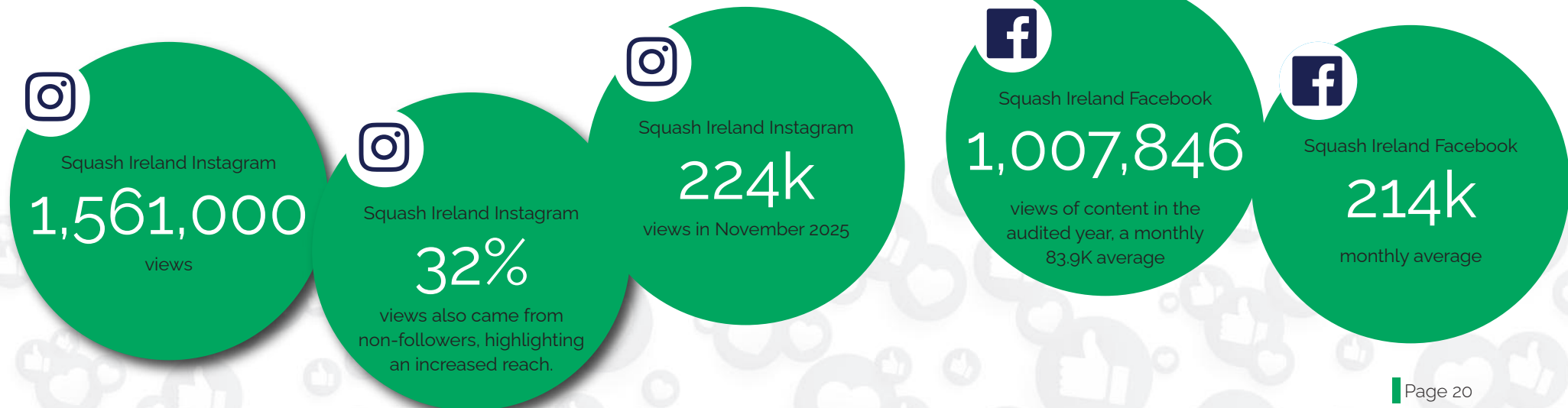
The channel grew its followers to 1,929, but 32 per cent of content views also came from non-followers, highlighting an increased reach. The best month was November 2025 with 224K views.

Facebook has also delivered very encouraging growth with 1,007,846 views of content in the audited year, a monthly 83.9K average.

The Squash Ireland follower count also rose to 759, with content further engaged by 51.1 per cent of non-followers, showing this channel's reach. The best month was February 2026, with just shy of 160K views.

Counted together, the views of the Squash Ireland Instagram and Facebook channels across the year were 2,568,846, a monthly average of 214K. This is a very healthy situation as it gets our message out to the older audience on Facebook (35 years old and above) and the younger audience on Instagram (18 to 34 years old), ensuring we catch the attention of as many people as possible.

Sport for Business provides a monthly report on social media across the whole of Irish Sport, and in the Facebook category, Squash Ireland frequently topped the average engagements per 1,000 followers metric in the 44 channels monitored, ranking us ahead of behemoth organisations such as the IRFU, the FAI and Athletics Ireland. This average engagements per 1,000 followers figure is seen as one of the most critical metrics in social media because it measures audience quality rather than just size, telling you how many people are actually stopping to interact with our content instead of just scrolling past it.



Regarding Instagram, Squash Ireland was regularly in the top 10 of the 42 channels when the average engagements per 1,000 followers metric was applied, charting as high as fourth in February.

The two other formats that time was dedicated to were the Squash Ireland website and the Squash Ireland newsletter.

The website had 221 stories published in a 12-month period, where there were 59K regular users of the site regularly engaging with tabs such as the calendar, the rankings, as well as news.

Meanwhile, the newsletter has become a twice-monthly publication due to the increased flow of content. It is now circulated to more than 6,000 people and has enjoyed an average open rate of 34 per cent. This is viewed as a good performance as average email marketing open rates in the industry are between 20 and 30 per cent.

Embedded in the newsletters are a series of links to our content and promotions. The industry click-through rate is generally three per cent, but the click-through rate for the Squash Ireland newsletter was 24 per cent.

Switching to X, although the Squash Ireland channel has a follower count of 1,345, it's a platform that continued the downturn evident in last year's report, as even

more people seem to have moved away from the platform. This situation resulted in the mid-April launch of a new Squash Ireland channel on WhatsApp with 60 sign-ups in its first few days.

While output has been dedicated to a select few platforms due to time constraints, YouTube and TikTok have still ticked along nicely in the background.

There were 93,225 live stream views on YouTube, up from 79,223 the previous year. The number of channel subscribers rose to 255 from 212, and a total of 5,966.1 watch hours were recorded.

Meanwhile, a TikTok video showing a Hannah Craig shot at the 2025 Irish Open has had 514K views, highlighting the future potential of this channel, where followers have jumped from 350 to 1,005, as another growth outlet for Squash Ireland.

Liam Heagney
Communications Officer – Squash Ireland



Coach Education

Coach education and workforce development remained a major focus for Squash Ireland throughout 2025/26, as growing junior participation, club activity and affiliated membership continued to increase demand for coaches across the country.

A key milestone during the year was the approval and launch of the new "Introduction to Coaching Squash" Award. Approved by Sport Ireland's Coaching Unit, this new entry-level qualification now forms the foundation of the national coaching pathway, creating a clearer progression route from Level 0 through to Level 3 coaching.

The award has been designed to support grassroots development by preparing participation-focused coaches to assist with junior sessions, beginner programmes, social squash activity and club engagement initiatives. Just as importantly, it provides clubs with an accessible way to introduce new volunteers, parents and players into coaching for the first time. Built-in mentoring and shadowing opportunities will help support new coaches as they gain experience and confidence within their club environments.

Looking ahead, Squash Ireland intends placing strong emphasis on rolling out the qualification across the club network, with clubs encouraged to identify local coaching needs and host courses within their own communities. As participation continues to grow, developing a broader and more sustainable coaching base will remain a central priority.

Introduction to Coaching Squash was formally piloted in Belfast in February 2026. Together, these initiatives are helping create a clearer and more accessible introduction to squash coaching nationwide.

In addition to the launch of the Introduction to Squash Coaching Award, Squash Ireland continued to deliver certified coach education courses during 2025. Three Level 1 courses and one Level 2 course were delivered, with 20 coaches participating across the certified Level 1 and Level 2 pathway. Leader courses were also delivered in Ulster, helping to further support grassroots coaching capacity and provide more accessible entry points into the coaching system.

The continued expansion of our Women in Sport activity also shaped coach development during the year. Increasing the number and visibility of female coaches remains an important strategic objective, with dedicated supports and funding committed to this area. Female-only coaching opportunities, alongside mixed programmes, are planned to help create supportive entry points for more women and girls interested in coaching and leadership within squash.

Another highlight of the year was the successful Squash Ireland Coaching Conference held in May 2025. The event brought together coaches, tutors and club leaders from across Ireland for a day of learning, discussion and collaboration. Sessions delivered by the tutor team on DOT Squash were particularly well received, while Arthur Gaskin provided valuable insight from a high-performance coaching perspective. Open discussion sessions also gave clubs and coaches an opportunity to exchange ideas, experiences and practical challenges.

International learning also remained an important feature of the year. Through the Erasmus+ grassroots coaching project, 10 participants completed coach shadowing experiences in Europe, including placements in Amsterdam and Poland. Supported by the European Commission, the programme exposed participants to new coaching models, participation structures and inclusive practices, while also helping build stronger European partnerships and networks. Building on this success, Squash Ireland has applied for a further Erasmus+ project focused on coaching and inclusion within the LGBTQI+ sphere.

Schools engagement continued to strengthen the wider coaching pathway, with additional teacher training activity delivered during the year to help introduce squash into school environments and equip teachers with the confidence to deliver enjoyable and accessible sessions. Squash Ireland intends to continue expanding this programme as part of its longer-term school and youth participation strategy.

Overall, 2025/26 represented a significant step forward for coaching within Squash Ireland. With stronger foundations now in place through the new coaching award, DOT Squash, Women in Sport initiatives, Erasmus+ learning and teacher education programmes, the organisation is well positioned to continue building a larger, more inclusive and more connected coaching workforce in the years ahead.



Dave Broderick - Development Manager – Squash Ireland
 Tiernan Harris - Administrator – Squash Ireland

Officiating

World Squash Officiating (W.S.O.):

Referee Qualification:

Since 2020 Squash Ireland has used the W.S.O. on-line portal as its preferred route for referee qualification and this season has again seen a modest growth in the number of qualified referees at Level 1. This season the process of working through that platform has presented some aspiring referees with challenges and it is fair to say that there has been resistance to the pay model in use there. It remains to be seen if this model of qualifying our referees is sustainable.

Player Certification:

Since 2023, as part of our on-going efforts to increase the number of qualified referees and to promote a better understanding of the Rules of Squash among our players, it has been Squash Ireland policy that all players are encouraged to achieve the Player Certificate – Introductory Level on the World Squash Officiating platform. Players on Ireland teams from U17 upwards are required to achieve the Player Certificate – Tournament Level. This certificate is recognised as the equivalent to W.S.O. Level 1 Referee and the figures for referees for the last two seasons reflect that fact. The U19s and Senior Teams are 100% compliant but only 15 of the 84 Masters players requested to earn that certification supplied same at time of writing.

On-line sessions on the Rules and Refereeing:

Sport Ireland published the Technical Officials Development Plan 2025–2027, providing an important framework for the future development of officials. Sport NI and Sport Ireland's Respect the Referee work also continued to progress.

Sport Ireland and Officiating:

In November, following on from its Feasibility Study on Technical Officials Sport Ireland produced in conjunction with Sport NI, Sport Ireland published the Technical Officials Development Plan 2025–2027 and the impact of that plan remain to be seen. Sport N.I. and Sport Ireland work in the allied area of Respect the Referee continues in its development phase.

Tournaments:

This season I was Tournament Referee for the Irish Junior, Senior and Masters Nationals, The Irish Masters Open, The Munster Junior, Senior and Masters Opens, The Limerick Senior Open PSA, The Masters Home Internationals in Galway and refereed at the finals for the In4Squash Sutton Tournament. I have refereed over 150 competitive matches at the above and local tournaments, and I have uploaded my observations on areas of interest from the perspective of The Rules of Squash to the Squash Ireland Officiating page of our website.

| Referees | 25-26 | 24-25 | 23-24 | 22-23 |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| W.S.O. Level 1 ('Club Grade') | 76 ¹ | 62 ⁴ | 34 | 92 ⁸ |
| W.S.O. Level 2 ('Tournament Grade') | 17 ² | 16 ⁵ | 15 ⁶ | |
| W.S.O. Level 3 ('National Grade') | 5 ³ | 5 ³ | 3 ⁷ | |

Lee Healy

Refereeing Secretary – Squash Ireland

¹ Includes 42 Player Certificate Tournament Grades. ² Includes 16 pending appraisal. ³ Includes 4 pending appraisal. ⁴ Including 29 Player Certificate Tournament Grades. ⁵ Includes 15 pending appraisal. ⁶ Includes 14 pending appraisal. ⁷ Includes 2 pending appraisal.

⁸ Includes 32 WSO Level 1, 1 Level 2 and 1 Level 3 after which time only referees qualified under the W.S.O. platform are listed as qualified.



Gillen
MARKETS

David FitzPatrick

High-Performance

Senior

Squash Ireland gained High Performance Development Sport status in early 2025, marking a major milestone for the sport and reflecting the significant progress made over the past two years.

Following the publication of the High Performance Strategy, Squash Ireland has continued to put in place the structures required to support a more formal and sustainable high-performance programme. This has included the establishment of a High Performance Working Group, increased performance coaching capacity, and a clearer pathway from junior and U23 squash into senior elite competition. Alongside this, the Junior High Performance Programme continues to lay important foundations for the long-term future of Squash Ireland.

Across both the men's and women's games, Ireland's leading players have continued to climb the PSA World Rankings and pave the way for the next generation. Hannah Craig continued her impressive rise on the PSA World Tour, breaking into the world's top 60. Breanne Flynn also enjoyed a breakthrough season, returning from a difficult injury period to win her first and second PSA World Tour titles and reach a career-high ranking of 97.

On the men's side, Sam Buckley entered the world's top 100 for the first time, reaching a career-high ranking of 95, while also reclaiming the Irish National Championship title. Conor Moran also achieved a career-high ranking of 138 and, after overcoming injury setbacks, has returned strongly and continues to build momentum on the PSA Tour. This means that Hannah Craig, Breanne Flynn and Sam Buckley have all achieved top 100 world rankings in recent months, underlining the progress being made at elite level.

This individual progress was matched by outstanding team performances at the European Team Championships in Amsterdam. The Irish men's team, made up of Sam Buckley, Conor Moran, Sean Conroy, Michael Creaven and Oisín

Logan, delivered a dominant performance to win Gold in Division 2 and secure promotion back to Europe's top division. The Irish women's team, featuring Hannah Craig, Breanne Flynn, Aimee McConnell and Lydia McQuillan, also captured Gold in Division 2, earning promotion to the top division alongside the men's team.

As a result, both Irish senior teams now effectively sit inside the top 10 in Europe, ranked 9th overall, and are strongly positioned ahead of the World Team Championships later this year.

Importantly, this progress is not limited to current senior players. Ireland now has a growing pipeline of emerging talent moving from junior, college and U23 squash towards senior competition. Players such as Denis Gilevskiy, Sean Murphy, Dylan Moran, Jack O'Flynn, Danny Lynch, Aaron Knox, Anna Leakey, Lydia McQuillan, Hannah McGugan and Sara Sabry all have the potential to strengthen Ireland's teams at European and World Championships and to challenge for major Games qualification in the years ahead.

A special mention must also go to the coaches supporting the continued growth of the Junior High Performance Programme, including David Noone, Michael Conroy and Josh McVeigh. Their commitment to developing Ireland's junior players is helping to build the foundations for future international success.

Looking ahead, Ireland has athletes on strong upward trajectories as the sport targets qualification opportunities for the 2027 European Games and LA 2028 Olympic Games. While there is still significant work ahead, the combination of improved structures, increased coaching support, stronger athlete pathways, rising world rankings and growing junior talent gives genuine optimism for the future.

Overall, 2025 represented an important step forward for high performance squash in Ireland. The progress made across rankings, team results, junior development and programme structures shows that Squash Ireland is moving in the right direction and building a stronger foundation for sustained international success in the years ahead.

Though I made the difficult decision to step down as National Head Coach, I would like to take the opportunity to thank Scott Graham for his trust and support throughout my time in the role, as well as all of the coaches and Squash Ireland staff who have contributed so much to the program. It has been a privilege to work alongside such committed people, and I am extremely grateful for the experience. I look forward to continuing to contribute to Squash Ireland in a smaller capacity moving forward





Juniors



A total of 42 players signed up for the Junior Performance Academy during the year. Coaching sessions were delivered across a range of clubs, including Fitzwilliam Lawn Tennis Club, Celtic Squash Club, Leinster Cricket Club, Mount Pleasant Lawn Tennis Club and Belfast Boat Club. These sessions focused on patterns of play, technical development and tactical awareness, helping players continue their progression in a structured performance environment.

A summer camp was also held in Fitzwilliam Lawn Tennis Club, led by David Noone and Arthur Gaskin, with up to 26 juniors attending. In addition to on-court development, players benefited from wider educational supports. A guest speaker with experience coaching in American universities delivered a session on squash as a potential pathway to U.S. college opportunities, while an anti-doping course was also provided to help juniors better understand athlete responsibilities and performance integrity.

Strength and conditioning continued to form an important part of the programme. Derek Ryan delivered S&C sessions during squad sessions and camps, and juniors also received personal programmes to support their development throughout the season.

Irish juniors also showed strong commitment to international competition. The U13 team achieved second place at the Home Internationals, recording wins over France, Scotland and Wales. Irish players were also well represented at major European events, with 16 entries at the Dutch Junior Open, 21 at the Danish Junior Open and 35 at the German Junior Open.

There were also several standout individual achievements. Harry Knox won the Spanish Junior Open, Aurora McDonnell won the Danish Junior Open, and Michael Lai won the Luxembourg Junior Open, reflecting the continued progress and potential within the Irish junior pathway.

Northern Ireland

The Northern Ireland high performance programme has continued to deliver strong results across both junior and senior squash during the 2025/26 season, with athletes achieving significant international success and representing Ireland at the highest levels of competition.

A major highlight was the achievement of Hannah Craig, who reached a career-high world ranking of 62 and successfully qualified for the 2026 World Championships. This represents a significant milestone for Northern Ireland squash and reflects the growing strength of the high performance pathway.

The programme also saw six Northern Ireland athletes selected to represent Ireland internationally:

- Hannah Craig Senior
- Aimee McConnell Senior
- Lydia McQuillan Senior
- Shriya Drawid U19
- Gabby Curran U15
- Josh Archer U13

These athletes competed for Ireland in major international events including the 5 Nations European Junior Team Championships, World Junior Squash Championships, and European Team Squash Championships.

Northern Ireland players continued to gain valuable international experience through participation in high performance events across the UK, Europe, and worldwide. Athletes competed regularly in both junior international tournaments and Professional Squash Association events, supporting their development within the Irish high performance pathway and exposing players to world-class competition standards.

The continued progression of Northern Ireland athletes on the international stage demonstrates the effectiveness of the high performance programme in developing talent capable of competing successfully at European and world level.



Josh McVeigh

Junior Performance Coach (Northern Ireland) – Squash Ireland



© David FitzPatrick

© David FitzPatrick



Michael Conroy
National Junior Development Coach – Squash Ireland
David Noone
National Junior Performance Coach – Squash Ireland



IRELAND

SCOTLAND

WALES

CYMRU

Safeguarding

Safeguarding was a core priority for Squash Ireland in 2025 as we further committed to ensuring a safe, inclusive, and supportive environment for all participants, especially children and young people. Throughout the year, we continued to enforce robust safeguarding policies, deliver regular training for coaches and volunteers, and maintain clear reporting procedures for any concerns that may arise.

Strategic Recommendations and Role Development

To take safeguarding to the next level, Squash Ireland has now elevated the National Children's Officer (NCO) function from a voluntary role to a part-time formal staff position, with an appointed post-holder in place since June 2025. This provides more consistent communication with clubs, a stronger presence at junior tournaments and coach education events, and closer working relationships with safeguarding colleagues in Sport Ireland and Sport NI. This development follows a proposal submitted to the CEO in July 2024.

Achievement and Progress

During the year, the NCO engaged with Squash Ireland and Squash Ulster through meetings and tournament attendance, strengthening visibility and direct engagement with children and young people and their parents/carers. The NCO held meetings with various clubs offering advice, support and helped to build on the good work already being carried out. Safeguarding policies were reviewed and updated in line with Sport Ireland and Sport NI guidance. The Board also agreed a three-year plan to build on existing foundations and continue progressing Squash Ireland's safeguarding culture and practice. In 2025, 46 individuals were Garda-vetted, including 32 coaches and safeguarding training was delivered across both Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland.

Areas for Further Action

While significant progress has been made, further work is required. Priorities for the coming year include developing a centralised database to support safeguarding, vetting and membership administration; ensuring consistent implementation of safeguarding procedures across all sections of affiliated clubs; and strengthening engagement with children and young people, including exploring a youth-led initiative to amplify young voices.

Outlook

Squash Ireland has continued to strengthen its safeguarding foundations and is progressing from a reactive to a proactive culture. This is underpinned by clear governance, consistent procedures and increased club support. With safeguarding embedded across all areas, the focus will remain on continuous improvement.



Pat Neeson
National Safeguarding Officer – Squash Ireland

Governance



How the Board Functions



The board of Squash Ireland for the 2025/26 season comprised:

| | |
|------------------|----------------------|
| Rosie Barry | President |
| John Dineen | Vice President |
| Kevin Aherne | Treasurer |
| Christine Mooney | Secretary |
| Susan Kelly | Independent Director |
| Lee Healy | Director |
| Rose Hynes | Director |
| Noel Storey | Director |

On behalf of the Squash Ireland membership, the Board of Squash Ireland would like to extend its sincere thanks to Scott Graham (CEO) and his team for their invaluable support and dedication throughout the season. Their hard work has been instrumental in advancing the objectives of Squash Ireland.

Since the 20th AGM, 22nd June 2025, 9 board meetings have been held, in person and on-line.

Board Expenses

Expenses paid to current board members for board-related activities, namely meetings, during the 2025 financial year totalled €668.00.

Expenses paid to current board members for non-board-related activities, namely officiating, during the 2025 financial year totalled €3,161.00.

Key Focus Areas

Various issues have been addressed over the year including the following:

- Strategic matters: monitoring of performance against the strategic plan – Connecting the Dots, Strategic Plan 2022 - 2027. Planning is underway for the next strategic plan starting in 2027.
- Financial matters: including budgets, grants, funding, monitoring of quarterly performance and cashflows.
- Governance matters: including compliance with the Governance Code for Sport, board training, board review and review of policies, procedures and other governance documentation.
- The Board also monitors Child protection matters and ESF & WSF issues.

Attendance sheet

| Name | Meetings Attended 2025 | 20/01/2025 | 28/02/2025 | 24/03/2025 | 12/05/2025 | 20/05/2025 | 09/06/2025 | 22/06/2025 Post AGM | 15/09/2025 | 13/10/2025 | 24/11/2025 |
|------------------|------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|---------------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Rosie Barry | 10 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| John Dineen | 8 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Christine Mooney | 9 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Lee Healy | 7 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Noel Storey | 9 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Rose Hynes | 10 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Kevin Aherne | 9 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Susan Kelly | 9 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |

| Name | Meetings Attended 2026 | 19/01/2026 | 03/02/2026 | 09/03/2026 | 11/05/2026 | | | | | | |
|------------------|------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Rosie Barry | 4 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | | | | |
| John Dineen | 4 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | | | | |
| Christine Mooney | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | | | | | | |
| Lee Healy | 4 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | | | | |
| Noel Storey | 4 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | | | | |
| Rose Hynes | 3 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | | | | |
| Kevin Aherne | 4 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | | | | |
| Susan Kelly | 4 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | | | | |

Christine Mooney
Hon. Secretary – Squash Ireland

Governance and Ethics Committee

The Governance and Ethics Committee (GEC) is composed of the following members:

Governance and Ethics Committee (GEC) is composed of the following members:

- Christine Mooney (Chair)
- Anne Costello
- Lee Healy
- Scott Graham
- Paul Nugent

Since the last AGM, the GEC has held 7 meetings, during which the committee has continued its work in upholding the highest standards of governance and ethics within Squash Ireland.

The core focus of the GEC is ensuring Squash Ireland's compliance with the Sport Ireland Governance Code for Sport. The committee plays a vital role in monitoring and overseeing all governance practices, ensuring that Squash Ireland operates in full adherence to established standards.

A key responsibility of the GEC is the regular review of Squash Ireland's policies, procedures, and related documents, conducted in line with a three-year review cycle. In 2025, the GEC successfully reviewed 26 policy documents and drafted 5 new policy documents, ensuring that all materials are up to date, compliant, and aligned with best practice.

Additionally, the GEC supports the Board in addressing ethical matters and engages in ongoing self-monitoring, reinforcing the commitment to transparency and integrity within the organisation.



Christine Mooney
Hon. Secretary – Squash Ireland

Finance, Audit and Risk Committee (FinARC)

The Finance, Audit and Risk Committee ('FinARC') was established to support the Board of Squash Ireland in fulfilling its responsibilities in relation to financial management, financial reporting, risk management and control systems.

The Finance, Audit and Risk Committee ('FinARC') is composed of the following members:

- Kevin Ahern (Chair)
- Gerry Delaney
- Christine Mooney
- Rose Hynes
- Susan Kelly
- Scott Graham (Invitee)
- Matthew Ford (Invitee)
- Rosie Barry (Invitee)

In 2025 FinARC held 5 meetings and its workload primarily related to:

- Ongoing monitoring of Squash Ireland Finances against budget with quarterly reporting to the Board.
- Preparation of the annual budget and recommendation to the Board.
- In conjunction with the auditors, completion of the annual audit of the financial statements and recommendation of the final Accounting Statements to the Board for approval.
- Review of Finance, Audit and Risk Policies and the Risk Appetite Statement in line with the agreed schedule.
- Review of the Squash Ireland Risk Register.
- Monitoring of ongoing risks including any potential legal issues.

Kevin Ahern
Chair – FinARC Committee

Anti-Doping

Maintaining the integrity of squash remains a core priority for Squash Ireland, and throughout 2025 the organisation continued to promote a strong culture of clean sport, athlete education, and fair competition.

Squash Ireland remains fully aligned with the anti-doping framework operated by Sport Ireland and the international standards established by World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA). This commitment extends beyond regulatory compliance and reflects a wider responsibility to support athletes, coaches, and support personnel in understanding their obligations and making informed decisions throughout their sporting journey.

Testing continues to play an important role within the anti-doping system with athletes tested at the recent Senior National Championships, and drug testing will again be conducted during the 2026 Cannon Kirk Gillen Markets Irish Open in line with national and international anti-doping procedures. These measures help ensure that all athletes compete on a fair and equal basis while reinforcing confidence in the integrity of competition.

Education and awareness also remain central pillars of Squash Ireland's anti-doping approach. Throughout the year, coaches and players from Squash Ireland participated in the ongoing International Testing Agency (ITA) monthly webinar series delivered in partnership with the World Squash Federation. Participation in these sessions formed an important part of the organisation's commitment to continuous education and active learning in the area of anti-doping. The webinars covered a wide range of topics including athlete rights and responsibilities, testing procedures, supplements and medications, Therapeutic Use Exemptions (TUEs), updates to the WADA Prohibited List, and maintaining integrity within high-performance sport. Continued engagement with these sessions helps ensure that Irish players, coaches, and support personnel remain informed on evolving anti-doping standards and international best practice.

Athletes, coaches, and support personnel are continually encouraged to make use of the educational tools and information platforms available through Sport Ireland, WADA, and World

Squash. Particular emphasis continues to be placed on the principle of *"Check Before You Take"*, recognising that both prescription and over-the-counter medications may contain prohibited substances.

Key resources available to the squash community include:

- Sport Ireland Medicine Checker
- ADEL Anti-Doping Education Platform
- Therapeutic Use Exemptions (TUEs) – Sport Ireland
- 2025 WADA Prohibited List
- Eirpharm Drugs in Sport Database
- Sport Ireland Anti-Doping
- World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA)
- Irish Anti-Doping Rules

Throughout 2025/26 Squash Ireland also continued to promote awareness of the Anti-Doping Education and Learning (ADEL) platform, which provides accessible online learning opportunities for athletes, coaches, medical practitioners, administrators, and parents involved in sport.

Squash Ireland would like to thank Paul Nugent for his work as Interim Anti-Doping Officer during 2025. Paul stepped down from the role at the conclusion of the year following an important period of support and transition for the organisation.

Following this transition, I have assumed the role of Anti-Doping Officer and have completed Anti-Doping Educator training with Sport Ireland. In this capacity, I will act as the organisation's primary liaison with Sport Ireland, European and World Squash, and WADA on anti-doping matters moving forward.

As the sport continues to evolve, Squash Ireland remains committed to maintaining the highest standards of integrity, transparency, and athlete welfare while ensuring that clean sport principles remain central to the culture of squash in Ireland.



Sport Ireland's anti-doping



The Irish Anti-Doping Rules



World Squash Anti-Doping e-learning platform



Therapeutic Use Exemption (TUE)

Dave Broderick
Anti-Doping Officer – Squash Ireland

Provincial

Leinster

Munster

Connacht

Ulster



Leinster

The Leinster League had another very successful season, with 62 teams competing across the divisions, demonstrating the continued strength and depth of club squash in the province.

A key development this year was the introduction of SportyHQ-based rankings for league teams. This proved to be a very positive step, providing a simpler, clearer and more transparent process for team selection. It also made the use of substitutes more straightforward by removing the previous restriction on players moving up to higher leagues multiple times.

The league concluded in mid-March and was followed by the cup competition, with finals held on Wednesday 15 April across three venues: Fitzwilliam LTC, Leinster CC and Mount Pleasant. The season finished with prize presentations and food in Fitzwilliam, creating a fitting and enjoyable conclusion to the league and cup programme. In total, six clubs collected league or cup titles, reflecting a strong spread of success across the province.

Leinster Squash was also pleased to support a number of important development initiatives during the year. Financial contributions were made towards the installation of a permanent camera in Fitzwilliam LTC, in recognition of the significant court time the club provides for Squash Leinster tournaments and training camps. Support was also

provided for junior development, including 12 hours of coaching for the Junior Interprovincial teams and a contribution towards the costs of 7 Leinster juniors travelling to the U19 World Junior Championships.

In addition, Leinster Squash supported the growth of squash in UCD by contributing €420 towards court hire over a number of months. This initiative was designed to help rebuild interest in squash within the college, with the hope that UCD will be in a position to field one or more teams from September 2026. Particular thanks go to Dave Riordan for his work and commitment in helping to get this initiative up and running.

A further €670 was invested in 22 hours of coaching for the Leinster Junior Squads, involving Level 1 and Level 2 coaches and benefiting over 40 juniors. Special thanks are due to Junior Representative Pauline Corcoran for her excellent work in organising and supporting this programme.

Looking ahead, planning and review work for the 2025/2026 season will take place before the next league season begins in October 2026. While Leinster Squash remains without a President at present, there is a positive outlook for the year ahead, hopefully with new faces joining the Leinster Council following the upcoming AGM.



Noel Storey
Hon. Secretary – Squash Leinster

Munster

Munster Squash has enjoyed a successful year across the province, with positive feedback from clubs on the competitions delivered throughout the season, including Open and Closed tournaments as well as the Munster leagues.

Munster Tournaments

Munster Squash successfully delivered the Munster Senior Open and Closed, alongside the Junior Open and Closed tournaments, with events continuing to rotate across the province. The organisation has received very positive feedback from the squash community, reflecting the strong engagement and support for competitions in Munster.

Munster Squash would like to acknowledge Dunhill Squash Club for its outstanding commitment to hosting the Munster Junior Closed for over 20 years. The club's welcome, dedication and support have made a significant contribution to junior squash in the province. With the Munster Junior Closed hosted in Limerick this season, Munster is now well placed to continue rotating all tournaments around the province. We would also like to thank the many volunteers, coaches and parents whose support makes these competitions possible.

Participation numbers remain consistent year on year. Masters squash has also been actively promoted across the province, with new Tier 3 events held this season in Waterford and Limerick for both women and men. Encouragingly, numbers in this area continue to grow.

Junior Coaching

Junior programmes have continued to develop across Munster, with strong activity in Celtic, Dunhill, Gleneagle, Highfield, Killenaule and Thurles, where participation numbers are growing. It is also encouraging to see clubs such as Limerick and Ballypatrick establishing junior programmes, further strengthening the pathway for young players across the province.

As part of its junior development plans, Munster Squash has invested in building a coaching network to support clubs, involving not only coaches but also club volunteers and committee members. While this remains an important priority, progress over the past 12 months has been challenging due to funding constraints.

Women's Squash

Successful coaching programmes are ongoing in Thurles, Limerick, Highfield and Celtic, with participation numbers remaining steady and

consistent. Women from Munster clubs have also engaged in one-day participation events, including Women Who Squash sessions held in Highfield and Thurles.

Munster Leagues

The Munster Leagues were successfully delivered across Divisions 1 to 6 this season, with 42 teams from 14 clubs taking part. In total, approximately 420 players were involved, reflecting strong and sustained participation across the province.

Refereeing

Munster Squash continues to actively support referee development through courses and online sessions. Lee Healy, in his role as Squash Ireland Refereeing Secretary, has been promoting WSO refereeing courses across Munster clubs, with referee numbers continuing to grow.

Coaching

This season saw strong progress in the rollout of coaching education across the province. A Level 1 coaching course in Cork produced six new coaches, while a schools-focused programme for teachers attracted over 30 participants.

Eugene Walker

Chair - Squash Munster

Connacht

Summary

Overall, this year has seen continued progress across the branch. Membership numbers, particularly among women in active clubs, are trending upwards, supported by increased playing and coaching activity and stronger inter-club communication.

The branch has also strengthened its operations, maintaining regular and largely productive meetings throughout the year. A key highlight was the Women's Regional Social Tournament in Westport, which brought together over 40 players from six clubs and created a strong platform for further growth in women's squash.

Encouragingly, players from clubs such as Westport and Loughrea are beginning to take part in open events. Making these events more welcoming and accessible will be an important next step in supporting this positive momentum.

The Connacht League continues to be successful and well received by participating clubs. Increasing participation will be an important focus for the year ahead.

Reviving inactive clubs remains a challenge, with progress often dependent on finding a local champion to lead activity. Claremorris was a very positive example this year, showing a significant and welcome recovery that looks set to continue.

Elsewhere, despite repeated contact with clubs such as Ballinrobe, Killala and Gort, progress has been limited.

A more focused support package, developed with Development Officer input, may help re-engage inactive clubs. The appointment of a Squash Activation Officer, supported by Dave Broderick and the branch, should also provide a stronger opportunity to revive dormant clubs and build local momentum.

Overall, the picture in Connacht remains very positive. Dave Broderick has been highly supportive of branch initiatives, and one of the key opportunities for the province is to identify more projects that can be supported by Dave and Squash Ireland.

Squash Ireland can continue to support this progress by funding and developing initiatives for women and juniors, strengthening coaching structures, and supporting open events. Further guidance on appropriate ball speeds for club players would also be useful, while open events could be made easier to navigate through novice sections and clearer supports for newer players, particularly women entering competition for the first time.

Ulster

This past year has been one of strong progress and renewed momentum for squash across Ulster, particularly in the area of development. Through a combination of targeted programmes, strengthened partnerships, and the continued commitment of our clubs and volunteers, we have made meaningful strides in growing participation and widening access to the game.

A central focus of our work has been increasing opportunities for young people to engage with squash. To date, our schools programmes have involved a small number of Belfast-based schools, helping us establish initial relationships and refine our approach. Building on this, a more structured schools - club link pilot in Ballymena is now set to commence, beginning with taster sessions in May and June, followed by full programme delivery from September across six schools. This model is designed to create clear pathways from school participation into club environments and competitive opportunities.

Alongside youth development, we have continued to prioritise inclusive and accessible programming. Our Disability Squash coaching programmes have been a standout success this year, with strong engagement across multiple sites including Glenveagh and the Junction in Belfast, as well as Castle Tower School in Ballymena. The impact of this work has been

reflected in the enthusiasm of participants and the support of staff, with follow-on blocks already planned - reinforcing our commitment to ensuring squash is a sport for all.

We have also placed a clear emphasis on growing the women and girls' game. New beginner programmes, such as those delivered in Lisburn, Banbridge, Foyle and Ballymena, have provided welcoming entry points for participants who are new to squash. These initiatives are designed not only to introduce the sport, but to support clubs in converting participants into regular members, strengthening the long-term sustainability of our clubs.

At club level, we have supported a range of introductory and recreational programmes, delivered across a number of key locations. These programmes are vital in broadening the base of participation and creating a more vibrant, inclusive squash community.

We have also made strong progress in coach education and workforce development. Over the past year, we have successfully delivered a further two coaching courses in Ulster, resulting in 12 new coaches achieving Level 0 and Level 1 qualifications. Looking ahead, a Level 2 course is scheduled to be hosted in Ulster this September, where we anticipate upskilling a further six

Ulster-based coaches to Level 2 standard. This work is critical - not only in increasing coaching capacity across the province, but in continuing to raise the quality, knowledge and standards of coaching as we support both the existing and next generation of players.

A key enabler of this progress has been our strengthening partnerships. Our continued collaboration with Ulster University, Queen's University, and local council sports development teams has allowed us to expand our programme delivery significantly. These partnerships have also created valuable opportunities to link in with other sporting organisations, including Ulster Tennis and Ulster GAA, helping us to share knowledge, access new audiences, and promote squash within a wider sporting landscape.

We are also pleased to have developed a partnership with the charity Sported, who have come on board to support our clubs in key areas such as administration and governance. Through this partnership, clubs can access guidance on best practice, as well as support with grant and funding opportunities, including signposting, application assistance, and ongoing mentorship. This is an important step in strengthening the foundations of our clubs and ensuring they are well-equipped for long-term sustainability.

Our work with partners has also extended into workplace and university settings, particularly through engagement with Queen's University staff and students. By introducing structured programmes that combine participation with light competition, culminating in social tournament formats, we are tapping into new audiences and reinforcing squash as a flexible, lifelong sport.

None of this progress would be possible without the dedication of our coaches, clubs, volunteers, and partners. Their willingness to engage, innovate, and support new initiatives has been critical in delivering these programmes on the ground.

While there is still work to be done - particularly in strengthening pathways and ensuring consistency across all areas - the progress made this year provides a strong foundation for the future. We look forward to continuing to support our existing 14 clubs with their development planning and strategic growth, while also working towards the addition of one or two new clubs over the next calendar year to further strengthen our offering across the province. Our focus will remain on growing participation, supporting clubs, and ensuring that squash is visible, accessible, and welcoming to all.

In closing, this year's development work reflects a sport that is moving forward with purpose. We are building not just programmes, but pathways - and most importantly, a stronger and more inclusive squash community across Ulster.

Niall Jackman

Club & Community Development Officer
(Northern Ireland) – Squash Ireland

members who
to the build of our
squash courts

Committee Reports



Masters

This year we will have held/supported thirteen tournaments, comprising eight home based ranking tour events, the ESF Irish Open, and four Home Internationals outings. This is a fantastic amount of activity for our masters community and we are very grateful for all the work and effort put in by our wonderful volunteers who without them, this would certainly not happen, so thanks to everyone who did draws, tournament directors, committee members, referees, got courts ready, took pictures etc etc. it all counts so much.

We are equally grateful to the clubs who support and provide their facilities to make the masters tour not only happen but a success, these clubs and their members open their doors to the masters tour each year and their contribution cannot be overstated. We acknowledge Sligo Squash Club, Galway Lawn Tennis Club, Celtic Squash Club, Curragh Squash Club, Limerick Lawn Tennis Club, Fitzwilliam Lawn Tennis Club, Highfield Squash Club, Sundays Well Boating & Tennis Club, Belfast Boat Club, Windsor Squash Club, Mount Pleasant Squash Club and Leinster Cricket club. Our two biggest clubs graciously hosted five events between them during this period, three being held in Fitzwilliam and two being played in Galway.

To our sponsors we are thrilled to have received your support this season. This is not taken for granted and really appreciated across the master's community. Without your help our calendar would not be the success it is. We would like to thank especially the support we received for the Nationals Function from Sarah Scanlon / Tipperary Crystal, an anonymous player from Thurles squash club, Claire King for silverware from her own collection, Rachel McNulty from

her athleisure-ware range, David Noone, Ciara Davey, Mary Keys & Edward Dillion, Nial Brannigan, & Eugene Walker/Griffith Jewellery. In addition, throughout the year we thank Michael Roden, Mespill Hotel, Rackets.ie, Insomnia Coffee & Fitzwilliam Lawn Tennis club. Finally, to Scott and his Squash Ireland team and the Board of Squash Ireland, without their support, we would not be enjoying the sport we all love so much, again we say thanks.

Growth in Masters Tour

Just looking at our eight ranking tour events for the season we had 768 entries in total (78% men & 22% women), the equivalent numbers over the previous two years being season 2023-2024 - 583 entries & season 2024-2025 - 661 entries. Overall, an increase of 32% over the 3-year period which is incredible and reflective of the popularity of the tour and the growing awareness of master's sport generally. When you add in the number of entries for the (ESF) Irish Open this brings the overall total to 909 entries. Can we get to 1000 in our season?

Our ranking spreadsheet now has 309 individual competitors listed, 237 men and 49 women. This is an incredible increase of 49% driven mainly by a 47% increase in women competitors and a big return to squash of 45-year-old men this season. On the women's increase, what has been evident is the beginner section which has enticed more entries and hopefully this will bear fruit going forward as they join the main tour.

As the profile of squash continues to rise due the Olympic inclusion and greater social media exposure, we are hopeful that the tour will continue to grow with your help (current



participants) and that of your clubs. We especially would like to ask clubs to continue to encourage their women masters' members to think about competing on the tour for the coming season. Of course, as we grow court capacity becomes an issue, but we believe with your support, split venues where necessary and slightly earlier starts this will not be a restricting issue.

Masters Season Awards / Function

As you know our tour events start Friday evening and finish Saturday evening allowing for min expenditure of one hotel night, we are very aware of the rising cost of living and the cost of travel especially so this strategy will continue for the season ahead. Therefore our Nationals Dinner takes on a special significance and it is our focus once a year to ask all masters players where possible, to stay that extra night and celebrate in style our community, our wonderful sport and have a bit of fun. This year was no exception and we had circa 130 guests at the very successful and enjoyable function hosted in Fitzwilliam. Masters of Ceremony on the night was again Suzanne O'Shaughnessy who we cannot thank enough for the wonderful and professional way she delivered the evening. Behind every great woman is a team which was Ciara Davey, Suzie Connors, and this team with Suzanne planned and executed the event and I think everyone who was there said the same thing, "wow that was a great night".

Three masters awards were presented on the night firstly the Patrick Murray award which was presented by Michael Roden and awarded to Keith Moran for all the work he has done to support / sponsor / compete in the masters tour events, anyone who knows Keith knows he does not do things in half measure. Second Masters award on the night was to our Masters Player of the year and this went to Kevin Knox who has gone unbeaten over the last two seasons on the tour which is some achievement given its competitive nature. Finally, a new award was introduced this year the Spirit of

Masters Award and this was presented to DJ McKeever who competes in nearly all events and forever shows up and never gives up.

Finally could I ask that all masters players where possible when the calendar for the new season comes out pencil in the Masters end of season Nationals Dinner in your diaries as a must attend, it's the one time a year where we all put the rackets away, get dressed up if you like, possibly have a few drinks or not but for sure have a bit of fun celebrating our together our great community.

Masters in Europe

The first part of our Squash Ireland Vision Statement says "to be a world class squash nation" and I believe were are clearly demonstrating this through our masters community who regularly and consistently travel to European / World tournaments and compete at the highest levels, its never a surprise to see Irish players on the podium, its now normal!! The Europeans held in Wroclaw Poland during August featured 29 Irish entries of which 12 finished in the top 8 a great achievement.

Masters Home Internationals

Fifteen Irish teams were announced between Men (9 teams) and Women (6 teams) this year involving 88 players of which 13 were first time caps which is a great sign of the competition for places through the tour and augers well for the future. Congratulations on receiving first call up to Maria O'Brien, Diane Lanigan, Myles Fitzpatrick, Michael Conroy, James Judge, Rory Canavan, Steven Mooney, Dave Riordan, Sue Murphy, Marian Mullen, William Nickelson, Nick Rusk and the evergreen Paddy Butler on the over 75 team.

While we did not have a winning team in this years series we did have five second place finishes which is incredible out of



fifteen teams and clearly shows the direct link with greater participation & competitiveness of our tour and results in the home international series. Congratulations to our second placed teams MO40, WO50, MO50, MO70, MO45 well done and to all our teams who played with passion, pride and commitment and for being great ambassadors for your family, clubs, country and our sport, thank you. (Worth checking out our social media channels to see how much the events were enjoyed!!)

TAMS (Trans-Atlantic Masters Squash)

Following on from its inaugural event in New York 2024 and Dublin 2025 the third edition of the series moved to Niagara-on-the-Lake in March 2026. The series is an international tournament for master's players from Ireland, England, USA & Canada with 80 participants in total playing across O50, O55 & O60 men's and women age categories. This year team Canada emerged as the overall team winners, narrowly beating a strong England squad. Ireland ladies 55 team were second in their group with a great showing. This unique event combines sport and fun in equal measure with several trips throughout the few days, the highlight being of course a trip to Niagara Falls. England will host the fourth leg completing the first series cycle next year in March in the Roehampton Club south London.

Looking forward

As the saying goes *"don't look back you are not going that way"*. We have a brilliant sport, we have a great calendar of tour events each year, and we have an international outlet through the Home Internationals Series which is the envy of many countries. We have shown that we can compete at the highest levels in international competition, so the only word of caution is not to get complacent and take success for granted, so please encourage more players from your club to get involved in events of all ages groups and genders but especially younger cohorts. Please also encourage more volunteers to help out on working groups, committees, refereeing, coaching and let's continue to build our community.

Eugene Walker

Chair – Masters Committee



Junior

Coach Developers

The Junior Committee played an important role throughout the season in supporting the planning, development and delivery of junior squash activity across the country. This committed group helped ensure the successful delivery of a wide-ranging junior programme during the 2025/2026 season, including domestic competitions, squad training and opportunities for international representation. The committee comprised the following representatives:

| | |
|------------------|--|
| Brendan Connolly | Junior Secretary & Munster Representative |
| Stevie Archer | Ulster Representative |
| Audrey Fayne | Connacht Representative |
| Pauline Corcoran | Leinster Representative |

Domestic Junior Tournaments

A full calendar of junior tournaments was successfully delivered, showcasing the depth of talent and commitment across all provinces.

The Junior Interprovincials took place on March 7th and were jointly hosted by Sutton Lawn Tennis Club and ALSAA. Teams from Leinster, Ulster, Munster, and Connacht competed across a range of age groups. Special thanks to the provincial representatives for their efforts in organising and coordinating teams and travel. The goal moving forward is to increase participation, expand team representation in future seasons and rotate the event amongst provinces.

Junior Rankings

The junior ranking system was maintained and updated throughout the season by Andrew Gillespie, ensuring transparency and consistency in player seeding across all competitions. Rankings continue to play a critical role in team selection for both domestic and international representation. Big thank you to Andrew again.

Junior Squads and Coaching

Training squads were held at regular intervals during the season in preparation for provincial, national, and international competitions. These sessions were vital in developing player performance, building team spirit, and preparing players for the demands of international squash.

International Representation

Five Nations (U13/U15) – 10th–12th April 2026, Dublin, Ireland

- Coach: Michael Conroy
- Assistant Coach: Josh McVeigh
- Team Manager: Roisin O'Shea

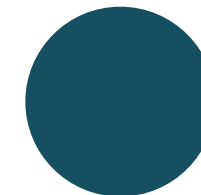
This key development event provided vital early international exposure for our youngest age groups. Big congratulations to our U13s whom finished in 2nd place winning against all the nations with the exception of England, while our U15s finished 5th playing some really close competitive matches.

U13 Girls Team: Ruby Carroll
Daisy Morrissey
Aurora McDonnell
Caoimhe English

U13 Boys Team: Harry Knox
Eoin O'Brien
Josh Archer
Ridit Thapar

U15 Girls Team: Gabby Curran
Zoe Nyhan
Raghad Aboelala
Saibh Darcy

U15 Boys Team: Michael Lai
John Qigley
Jamie Morrissey
Leonid Ivlenkov



European U19 Championships

28th March – 5th April 2026, Krakow, Poland

Coach David Noone

Team Manager Breanne Flynn

Ireland fielded both individual and team entries in this highly competitive event. The team finished 11th overall, registering strong wins over Italy and Hungary whilst very narrow defeats against Belgium and Poland.

| | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|------|
| Top Individual Results | Shriya Drawid | 21st |
| | Riley Slade | 26th |
| | Aaron Knox | 27th |
| | Christian Dromgoole | 37th |

Team Ella Erickson, Shriya Drawid & Zoe Yoeman
Aaron Knox, Conal Jackson
Christian Dromgoole

Additional Individual Entries Frank O'Flynn, Reily Slade & Tyler Dromgoole

European U15/U17 Championships

7th – 10th May 2026, Prague, Czech Republic

Coach David Noone

Team Manager Roisin O'Shea

U15 Girls Team Gabby Curran.
Zoe Nyhan, Raghad Aboelala & Saibh Darcy

U15 Boys Team Michael Lai, John Giugley,
Jamie Morrissey, Leonid Ivlenkov

U17 Girls Team Lucy Walsh, Maggie Jones & Ashrakat Elmahgoub

U17 Boys Team Danny Jones, Adam Power & Nathan Walsh

WSF World Junior Championships 2026 – Niagara, Canada (July)

Preparations are underway for this prestigious event, with both a boys' and girls' team planned for entry. Selection is ongoing and will be based on national rankings and recent performances.

Coach David Noone

Team Manager Roisin O'Shea



Brendan Connolly
Secretary – Junior Committee

Partners and Sponsors



Appendices



Appendix 1 Squash Ireland 2025 Awards - Winners

Club of the Year
2025

Tullamore SC

Coach of the Year
2025

Brian Murray

Volunteer of the Year
2025

Ivan O'Mahony

Referee of the Year
2025

Dmitry Gilevskiy

Senior Player of the Year
2025

Breanne Flynn

Junior Player of the Year
2025

Ruby Carroll

Masters Player of the
Year 2025

Kevin Knox

President's Award
2025

Eoin and Suzanne Ryan

Appendix 2 Squash Ireland National Champions

Senior

| | |
|-----------|---------------------|
| Women | Hannah Craig |
| Men | Sam Buckley |
| U23 Women | Zoe Yeomans |
| U23 Men | Christian Dromgoole |

Junior

| | |
|------|-----------------|
| U15G | Gabby Curran |
| U17B | Danny Jones |
| U17G | Lucy Walsh |
| U19B | Aaron Knox |
| U19G | Shriya Drawid |
| U11B | Conor Mullery |
| U11G | Anna Maria Deak |
| U13B | Harry Knox |
| U13G | Ruby Carroll |
| U15B | Michael Lai |

Masters

| | |
|--------|------------------|
| W35/40 | Tanya Scullion |
| W45 | Sandra Walshe |
| W50 | Aisling McCardle |
| W55 | Jennie Dillon |
| W60 | Rosie Barry |
| W65 | Maureen Duke |
| M35 | Sam Olwill |
| M40 | Niall Rooney |
| M45 | Nigel Peyton |
| M45B | Barry Deegan |
| M50 | David Ayerst |
| M55 | Brian Lalor |
| M60 | Andre Maur |
| M65 | David Lalor |
| M70 | Micael Conlon |
| M75 | Paddy Butler |

Appendix 3 Squash Ireland Masters Home Internationals Squads

Galway, Ireland

WO35/40

Sioban Parker (captain)
Aoileann Ni Chomhrai
Maria O'Brien
Tanya Scullion
Ciara Moloney Dohney
Cira Davey

MO60

Rosie Barry (captain)
Mary Keys
Diane Lanigan
Josie Grogan

MO40

Donnagh Crowley (captain)
Brian Byrne
Nial Rooney
Dermot McNamara
David Noone
Mark Furlong

MO60

Teddy Reineke (captain)
Gerry Callanan
Andre Maur
David Hazzrd
Donal Kelly
Myles Fitzpatrick

Nottingham, England

WO55

Lynda Dunlop (captain)
Jennie Dillion
Emer O'Brien
Beverly Scott
Maureen Duke
Orla Diamantiono

MO35

Peter McNeice (captain)
Mark Gilliland
Michael Conroy
James Judge
Rory Canavan
Sam Olwill
Peter Bekker

MO55

Stephen Fastenfeld (captain)
Brian Lalor
Tom Crowe
Arthur Murphy
David Cassidy
Stephen Mooney
Jonathan Simpson

Aberdeen, Scotland

WO50

Suzanne Swan (captain)
Suzanne O'Shaughnessy
Rachel McNulty
Aishling McCardel
Olivia Kennedy
Sue Murphy

MO50

Vincent Pippett (captain)
David Ayerst
John Hurley
Dave Riordan
Derek Ryan
Rob Staunton

MO70

Donal Coughlan (captain)
Bert Cotter
Michael Conlon
Peter Stephens
Patrick Hanley
Rober Garvin
Kyran Hurley

Cardiff, Wales

WO45

Sarah Scanlon (captain)
Niamh Darcy
Suzanne O'Shaughnessy
Rachel McNulty
Suzanne Swan
Anrea Redmond

WO65

Marion Mullen (captain)
Maureen Duke
Rose Hynes
Dympna Reardon

MO45

Kevin Moore (captain)
Patrick Morrissy
Ronald Peyton
Nigel Peyton
Nial McCarron
Kevin Knox
William Nickleson

MO65

Gerry Connaughton (captain)
John Dineen
James McSweeney
Dave Lalor
Michael Roden
Nick Rusk



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