

MASTERS 65, 70, 75 and 80 YEAR OLDS INTERPROVINCIALS IN BELFAST BOAT CLUB

26 players, from each province, travelled to Belfast Boat Club. This included 65,70,75 men's and ladies' teams, one 80 men's doubles combination with a total of 78 matches played over 1.5 days. The Ulster teams were very grateful to Gordon Boal who was non-playing captain. The team performed well and succeeded in keeping the cup the Ulster for a second year.

MASTERS 50, 55, AND 60 YEAR OLDS INTERPROVINCIALS IN GLENAGEARY

24 players, from each province, travelled to Glenageary Tennis Club in Dublin. This included 50, 55, and 60 year old, ladies' and men's teams with a total of 108 matches played over 2 days. The Ulster team finished 3rd in the event.

MASTERS INTERPROVINCIAL IN LIMERICK LAWN

32 players, from each province, travelled to Limerick in Munster. This included 30, 35, 40 and 45 year old, ladies' and men's teams. With a total of 144 matches played over 2 days it was an action-packed weekend. Jenny Lyall travelled with this team to Dublin as non-playing captain. Ulster were runners up in the event.

INTERNATIONAL HONOURS THROUGHOUT 2023

Many of our Ulster Masters players were selected for international honours both at 4 Nations and in ITF competitions.

IRISH MASTERS INDOORS CHAMPIONSHIPS 2023

This Championship continues to be well supported and thought to be a very prestigious tournament. We would wish to take this opportunity to thank the David Lloyd and Belfast Boat Club, for hosting matches. Almost 275 players entered 20 age groups and categories.

There were many local players amongst the list of winners and we congratulate all of them.

UBTI acknowledge all who helped to run the tournament. Maggie McKenna, Lauren Smythe, Eileen Carlin, Ann Rosa, Liz Thompson, Jenny Lyall, Wendy Cree, Kathryn Fleming, and Audrey Holmes. who helped organise and deliver this event. Tournament Referee, Glenn Maitland and his assistant Johnny Abosi did a remarkable job in scheduling some 260 matches at various venues throughout the weekend. Myself, as Tournament Director thank you all.

ULSTER MASTERS TOURNAMENTS AND LEAGUES

Masters' tournaments were also held in Belfast Boat Club, Ballycastle, and Irvinestown. The Masters' committee would thank the organisers of these tournaments and to players who took part. This enables more competitive play for masters' tennis in Ulster.

The Evergreen leagues, run by the B and D league executive, on Friday nights in April, May and June also gives our masters' players the opportunity for competition. Our thanks go to the Executive for their continued support and determination to offer a wide variety of team competitions across the province.

SELECTION

Thank you to all who contributed to Ulster Masters team selection throughout 2023. Lauren Smythe (Larne), Donna McSorley (Omagh), Kerri Russell (ATT), Karl Donaldson, Johnnie Aboisi (CIYMS) Jenny Lyall (Bangor), Wendy Cree (Hawarden), Ellen McCartney (Bangor), Gordon Boal (Bangor), David Williams (Windsor), Letty Lucas (Downshire) and John Maguire (Irvinestown) constituted the selection committee. Their scrutiny of results and knowledge of players was invaluable.

Letty Lucas
Chair of Masters' Committee
February 2024