



RELAUNCH ETWALL SQUASH CLUB

Thanks to funding support from Steve Smith at South Derbyshire Schools Sport Partnership (SDSSP), Pete Goodings, East Midlands Regional Manager, England Squash and Racketball (ESR) the squash courts at Etwall Leisure Centre are beginning to buzz again.

It was back in May 2009 that Carol Wood, Development Officer, Derbyshire Squash and Racketball (DSR) initiated discussions with Steve Wright, Etwall LC Manager, regarding a proposal to promote squash and racketball to pupils at John Port School and to adults in the surrounding communities of Etwall, Hilton and Willington. The idea was introduced at the John Port School PTA Summer Fayre where a 'Longest Rally' competition using the Unsquashable MiniWall attracted interest from many children and their parents. As a direct result Etwall Squash Club was officially launched as an ESR affiliated club on 31st October 2009.



By January 2010, Carol Wood had negotiated funding from ESR East Midlands regional budget to 'kick-start' the club with the aim of attracting new and existing players to the sports of squash and racketball. The focus of the initial club activities was to be After School Clubs, Young Adults (16+ years), Women and Girls, and Over 50s. Thus Steve Smith, through SDSSP, was able to offer funding for the Etwall Squash Club coaches to run a February half-Term Holiday Club and After School Taster sessions in the term leading up to the Easter holidays. As a direct result of this funding a total of 37 children aged between 11–18 years were introduced to squash with 21 children attending 3 or more sessions (maximum 13!!). In addition Steve Smith has approved the funding for a Sport Unlimited Year 3 project to deliver beginner squash courses to 'new' Y7 and Y12 pupils from John Port School during the autumn term of 2010.

Plans are ongoing to launch this project during the new Y7 Induction Days in July 2010.

Meanwhile, for the Spring term, Paul Jobson is continuing with his After School Clubs on Mondays and Tuesdays (3.30–5pm) and Carol Wood has already 'signed up' 4 of the Y12/13 girls for a Beginners Squash course run on Fridays (3.30–5pm). For further information on these or future sessions please contact Paul (07881 600991) or Carol (07887 837359) directly or visit the Etwall SC website at www.EtwallSquashClub.org.uk