

# Table Tennis Ulster

Oct 2009



## Bronze Medals for Ulster Girls at Six Nations Championships

Ulster had three players representing Ireland at the recent Six Nations Championships held in Dublin with Amanda Moge (Glengormley), Claire Nelson (Belfast) and Ashley Givan (Dungannon) all competing in the team and singles events. The fourth player included in the squad was Fiona Dennett who is based in Cheshire. Both Amanda and Claire have played this event before so knew how demanding the task was in front of them. This was Ashley's first senior cap for Ireland, a remarkable achievement for someone who is still only 14 years of age. The girls played magnificently all weekend to claim the bronze medal beating Scotland, Guernsey and Isle of Man in the process, with the girls losing close matches to strong teams from Wales and England. The men's team finished 4<sup>th</sup> beating both Guernsey and Isle of Man however succumbed to strong teams from England, Wales and

Scotland. On Sunday the Individual events started, and the three girls from Ulster were joined by fellow Ulster player Ashley Robinson who was playing in the singles event only. Star performer of the Irish team was Amanda Moge who won a bronze medal narrowly missing out on a place in the women's singles final losing in a closely fought 4 set match against Hannah Hicks from England. Claire Nelson and Ashley Givan both excelled reaching the quarter final stage with Claire unlucky to meet her inform team mate Amanda Moge at this stage with Amanda narrowly winning in a fifth set thriller. However Claire enjoyed a good win against Gillian Edwards (Scotland) in the group stages. Ashley Givan lost to Hannah Hicks at the quarter final stage, however had a tremendous win against the Scottish Number 1 Lady Rebecca Russell in the Last 16.

Ashley Robinson performed well despite losing in his first round group however had an extremely difficult task facing players considerably older than himself with much greater experience. Playing players of this calibre is great experience for Ashley and can only make him stronger as a player.

### Results

#### Men's Team Event

1. England
2. Wales
3. Scotland
4. Ireland
5. Guernsey
6. Isle of Man

#### Ladies Team Event

1. Wales
2. England
3. Ireland
4. Scotland
5. Guernsey
6. Isle Of Man

#### Men's Singles

Gold: Liam Pitchford (Eng)  
Silver: Ryan Jenkins (Wal)

Bronze: Darius Knight (Eng)  
Bronze: Niall Cameron (Sco)

#### Ladies Singles

Gold: Naomi Owen (Wal)  
Silver: Hannah Hicks (Eng)  
Bronze: Amanda Moge (Ire)  
Bronze: Karina Lefevre (Eng)

#### Ireland Men's Team

John Murphy (Leinster)  
Gavin Maguire (Leinster)  
Sam Hanley (Leinster)  
Brian Fitzgerald (Munster)  
NPC: Marcus McDonnell

#### Singles Only:

Ashley Robinson (Ulster)  
Sam Logue (Leinster)

#### Ireland Ladies Team

Amanda Moge (Ulster)  
Claire Nelson (Ulster)  
Ashley Givan (Ulster)  
Fiona Dennett (Cheshire)  
NPC: Arthur Brett

#### Singles Only:

Sara Dolan (Leinster)  
Rebecca Kenny (Leinster)



From left: Claire Nelson, Amanda Moge and Ashley Givan with their bronze medals

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“PLAYER OF THE WEEKEND WAS PAUL MCCREERY WHO CLAIMED THE SILVER MEDAL IN THE MEN’S SINGLES LOSING IN AN EXTREMELY TIGHT FIVE SET MATCH AGAINST JOHN MURPHY FROM DUBLIN”

## Leinster GP results

Ulster players returned home from the Leinster Open with 2 Gold medals, 5 Silver Medals and 1 Bronze medal! Player of the weekend was Paul McCreery who claimed the silver medal in the Men’s singles losing in an extremely tight five set match against John Murphy from Dublin. This match was of high quality with long rallies and exciting play from both players much to the appreciation of the large crowd gathered round to watch. Paul went one step further in the Under 21 Men’s singles when he beat Sam Logue to claim the gold medal. Best performance in the Ladies singles came from Amanda Moge who won the silver medal losing to Rita Kacsandi in 4 closely contested sets in the final. Amanda beat fellow Ulster and international team mate Claire Nelson in the semi final in a five set thriller, 13-11 in the final end after staging a huge comeback from several match points down. Claire however finished the day off in style with a gold medal in the Ladies Under 21 Singles

beating Ashley Givan (Dungannon) in another five set thriller, this time Claire facing match points against her in the fourth, however upping her level to win that set and eventually win in the fifth set after some fantastic play from both girls. Ashley also performed exceptionally well in the Ladies event reaching the semi final, and putting up a brave fight against Kacsandi eventually losing in 4 sets. Ulster also had success in the banded events. Keith Knox returning to play in his first competition after a 2 year break due to injury played fantastically to finish 2<sup>nd</sup> in Band 1 losing out to Rory Scott. This is a brilliant achievement for Keith who has been out of the game for so long, and he showed flashes of brilliance losing to John Murphy in the quarter final stages of the Men’s singles in the fifth set. Once Keith can build his fitness and match sharpness back, he will be a real contender for a place in the senior national team.

Stephen Slater did well to finish 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Band 3 event beating many good players along the way and is an exciting prospect for the future.

### Men’s Singles

1. John Murphy
2. Paul McCreery (Ulster)
3. Conor Nolan
3. Sam Hanley

### Ladies Singles

1. Rita Kacsandi
2. Amanda Moge (Ulster)
3. Claire Nelson (Ulster)
3. Ashley Givan (Ulster)

### Men’s U21 Singles

1. Paul McCreery (Ulster)
2. Sam Logue

### Ladies U21 Singles

1. Claire Nelson (Ulster)
2. Ashley Givan (Ulster)

### Other Selected Results

#### Men's Band 1

1. Rory Scott
2. Keith Knox (Ulster)

#### Men's Band 3

1. Arthur Lewanczuk
2. Stephen Slater (Ulster)

“ASHLEY GIVAN EXCELLED WINNING 9/10 MATCHES SHOWING GREAT COMPOSURE WINNING MANY OF HER MATCHES IN THE FIFTH”.

## Junior British League

Ireland had a very successful trip to Stoke-on-Trent on 24/25 October where both the boys and girls teams lead their respective divisions. The boys team including Ulster players Paul McCreery and Ashley Robinson currently are sitting in pole position in the premier division with Paul winning 8/10 playing at number 1 in the team with Ashley win-

ning 5/6 matches. The boys faced many of England's top junior and cadet players and should be proud of their performances over the weekend.

The girls were equally as impressive, currently leading the way in Division 1 with 4 wins and a draw. Ashley Givan excelled winning 9/10 matches showing great composure winning many of her matches in the fifth.

### Boys Team

Paul McCreery  
Sam Hanley  
Ashley Robinson  
Sam Logue  
NPC: Marcus McDonnell

### Girls Team

Ashley Givan  
Sara Dolan  
Sara Timlin  
Edel O’Reilly  
NPC: Amanda Moge

## Fermanagh Junior Open Results

The Stiga Fermanagh Junior Open was held at Fivemile-town College on Saturday the 31<sup>st</sup> of October. With 86 Players 138 entries and 228 matches a full days table tennis lay ahead.

In the under 10 Girls Leah Shekleton and Rebecca Finn played out a thrilling five set final with Leah winning 12-10 in the final set to claim gold.

In a big entry of 17 entries in the under 10 boys there was many close games in this competition and in an all Mayo final Martin Williams beat Eddie Ditchburn 11-6 11-4 11-8.

In the Under 12 Girls, Katie McGlone was victorious beating Laura Finn in a close fifth setter.

Jonathan Porter claimed the U12 title with a tremendous four set victory over Ryan McConkey.

In the Under 14 Girls, Ashley Givan came out on top claiming the gold medal beating the very talented Katie McGlone in the final 3-0 who is still only 9 years of age. The bronze medal winners in this category were Annalise Walker and Sally McConkey.

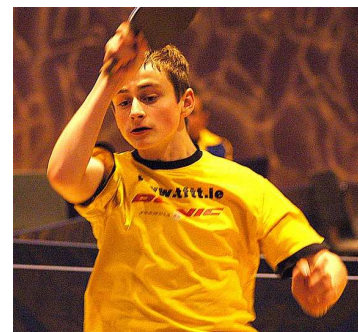
The biggest event of the day with 32 entries was the Under 14 boys. In the first semi Jonathan Porter beat Ryan McConkey in yet another close match to win in the fifth set. In the other semi-final Kieran Reilly was too strong beating Conor Mullaly 3-0. In the final, Kieran took the gold medal with an excellent 3-1 victory over Jonathan Porter

In the under 17 girls the first semi saw Ashley Givan and Lavina Maties with Ashley winning 3-0. Roisin O'Reilly played Sarah Timlin in the other Semi and registered a very good 3-0 win. Ashley continued her dominance beating Roisin 3-0 to take both the

cadet and junior titles.

In the Under 17 boys Stephen Slater played Kieran Reilly in the first semi-final winning 3-0. The 2nd semi-final was a lot closer with Danny Murphy beating Richard Clarke in 5 highly contested sets. In the final, Stephen was utterly dominant winning in 3 sets.

The Fermanagh Table Tennis Association would like to thank all who came and support this event, Fivemiletown College, the Tournament Committee, the National Umpires and Tournament Referee, Kitty's Kitchen and our sponsors Tommy Fitzgerald Table Tennis Shop Stiga and SpeedyReg. They hope all players and spectators enjoyed the day. There was tremendous table tennis played in a junior tournament with thrilling matches played in all events.



Stephen Slater (junior boys winner) in action.

## Affiliation

Affiliations are now due for this season: - please support your sport and help the development of Table Tennis - **fund- ing depends upon the num- bers of players affiliated - your £1 means £2 to the sport!!**

### Benefits in Affiliating

- Access to cut price equipment
- Competition in Open Events
- Coaching for all levels
- 3 Ulster Squads
- 6 Ulster Development Squads

- Access to regional Development Officers/Jing Yi Graham for coaching
- Coaching Awards—Initiator & Level 1 Awards
- Provincial Umpire Courses
- Part of Strategic Plan
- Prizes for Grand Prix (Senior & Junior), Mini-Prix
- Inter League Competition
- Access to Super Grand Prix
- Planned email contact
- Loan of Stiga equipment for tournaments
- Ulster Branch Newsletter/ Website
- Competition Entry Forms

### Fees

Senior:	£22
League Player only:	£12
Junior (U17):	£14
Minor (U12):	£10
Under 10:	£2
Other (Officials/Coaches/ Parents/Over 65)	£10
Unemployed:	£0

A list of upcoming events can be found on page 4.

If you would like an affiliation form, or a calendar of events, please contact Amanda at [admin@tulster.co.uk](mailto:admin@tulster.co.uk)



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# Table Tennis Ulster

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Table Tennis Ulster is sponsored by STIGA and Fitzgerald Table Tennis. The STIGA agent for Ireland is Tommy Fitzgerald and can be contacted at 00353-1-8428744 or by email at [ttft@eircom.net](mailto:ttft@eircom.net). You can also view a range of his products at [www.tftt.ie](http://www.tftt.ie). STIGA sponsor a number of Ulster's elite players and will have a stand with all the latest equipment and clothing at most of the major tournaments held in Ulster throughout the year.

## Upcoming Events

### November

- 7 Ulster Junior Team(1) F'town
- 7/8 National Training Camp, U12/  
Cadet, IWA
- 14 Ulster Junior Open, Shankill LC
- 14/15 Bristol GP
- 21 TTU Ability (1), Glenburn
- 21 Ulster Veterans Tournament
- 21/22 TTU Elite Squad Training, Rockport
- 28 TTU Development Camp
- 28/29 National Senior Training Camp
- 28/29 Stockton on Tees 4 Star

### December

- 3/6 Finland Open
- 12 Ulster Championships (Ulster  
Ranking 1), Fivemiletown
- 19/20 London GP
- 28/31 Christmas Training Camp

For entry forms for any of the above tournaments, please contact Jing Yi at [jingyi@ttulster.co.uk](mailto:jingyi@ttulster.co.uk)

## Other Stories

### Latest Irish Rankings

#### Ulster Players in Top 20

##### Mens

- 2. Paul McCreery
- 5. Daryl Strong
- 6. Peter Graham
- 11. Ashley Robinson

##### Ladies

- 2. Amanda Mogeey
- 3. Claire Nelson
- 4. Ashley Givan
- 7. Na Liu
- 16. Gillian Richardson

Full Irish Rankings can be accessed here:

[www.irishtabletennis.com/itta/rankings/](http://www.irishtabletennis.com/itta/rankings/)

### Ulster Junior Open

Entries are still open for the Ulster Junior Open to be held at **Shankill Leisure Centre on 14th November.**

The closing date for entries is Wednesday 4th November. Please act fast to ensure your entry into this prestigious tournament which is an Ulster and Irish Junior Ranking event.

Events: U10 Boys & Girls  
U12 Boys & Girls  
U14 Boys & Girls  
U17 Boys & Girls

Entry forms can be found here:

[http://www.irishtabletennis.com/content/files/UJO\\_Entry\\_Form.doc](http://www.irishtabletennis.com/content/files/UJO_Entry_Form.doc)

Or you can email your entries to [tonyphi1@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:tonyphi1@tiscali.co.uk)

### Funding For Clubs

Does your club need funding? Then visit [www.cash-4-clubs.com](http://www.cash-4-clubs.com) for an application form. Cash 4 Clubs is a

sports funding scheme which gives clubs a unique chance to apply for grants to improve facilities, purchase new equipment, gain coaching qualifications and generally invest in the sustainability of their club.

According to their website, any sports club can apply as long as they are registered with their sports National Governing Body or local authority.

### Bats For Sale

TTU currently have some friendship bats for sale. These bats are of good quality and are great for beginners/clubs/school players. Included in the pack is a bat, bat case and two balls all for £18. For further information please contact Jing Yi at 02890383811 or 07759-228110