

Surrey County Notes (November 2005) by Chris Andrews

England's World domination at the World Cadet Challenge team event was due in no small part to Surrey. In the early rounds Darius Knight beat Asia's No.1 player Kenta Matsudaira of Japan who beat Paul Drinkhall. In the Dominican Republic the England team didn't just have to beat the best teams in the World. That would have been easy. They had to beat Continents and they beat Asia, North America, Latin America and the rest of Europe. The Surrey player also reached the quarter-final of the Singles and won a Silver medal in the doubles partnering Paul Drinkhall.

At the European Championship 2007 Qualifiers in Bulgaria (Sofia) Joanna Parker was the only English player to remain unbeaten. The English ladies beat Estonia 3-0, Luxembourg 3-0, Bosnia 3-0, Bulgaria 3-0 and lost to Portugal 3-1. England finished top of their group and qualified.

Darius Knight has joined seven times British League Premier Division Champions and Joanna Parker is staying with her club 3B Berlin in Germany for a second year.

At the Bulgaria Open, Surrey's Darius Knight reached the semi-final of the plate event in the Singles, while Joanna Parker reached the quarter-finals of the main event with her partner Kelly Sibley.

A vast haul of medals were captured by Darius Knight at the Hungarian Junior Open (under 18's). Darius won the team Gold for England alongside Paul Drinkhall and Gavin Evans, a Silver medal in the doubles partnering Paul Drinkhall and a Silver medal in the Singles where he was beaten by Hungary's Attila Vadja.

Surrey's Grand Prix winners of the second half of last season were Kim Mudge Women's Veteran's Champion at Crystal Palace where Diane Melville won the Women's Band 3 event. The Men's Band 1 winner at Hereford was Abdul Wuraola, who also won the Stiga Blackpool 3 star Men's Band 1 event. Chris Beckley won the Men's Band 2 at Cheltenham and Abdul Wuraola was named 2004/05 season Men's Band 1 Champion. Wing Yung Chan won the Junior Boys Band 1 at the Liverpool 4 star Junior event and Steve Davis was the winner of the Cippenham Vets 2 star where he beat Derek Holman.

On the Grant Solder Summer School Helena Foylan won the Junior B tournament and was also awarded a prize for being the most dedicated player.

Surrey's 2nd Cadet side played in Worcester on the 15th October 2005. The team was Cian Sutcliffe, Andrew Ma, Matthew Seager, Rhea Badresa and Laura Higham. They performed very well considering many were representing their County for the first time.

Junior Dates for Diary; 27/11/05 Surrey schools individual at Sutton Youth Centre, 3-4 Dec 05 Regional trials (u11, u13, u15 and u18), 18/12 05 Cadet National League, 2/1/06 Surrey Junior Closed at Sutton Youth Centre, 8/1/06 London Junior Ranking Tournament Zone at Graham Spicer (New Malden), 28/1/06 London Junior Ranking Final, 29/1/06

Surrey Schools Pairs Competition at Sutton Youth Centre, 5/2/06 Cadet National League, 12/2/06 Surrey Grand Prix at Graham Spicers (u11, u13 and u15), 5/3/06 Junior Ranking Tournament zone at Graham Spicers, 12/3/06 Surrey Grand Prix at Sutton Youth Centre, 12/3/06 Cadet National League, 25/3/06 London Junior Ranking Final, 8/4/06 London Junior Ranking Tournament zone at Graham Spicers, 22/4/06 Surrey Grand Prix at Graham Spicers (New Malden, u11, u13 and u15), 6/5/06 London Junior Ranking Fianls, 13-14 May 06 Junior British League at Wolverhampton. Contacts; Surrey Grand Prix at Graham Spicers – Pete Corner 020 8979 2963, Surrey Closed & Grand Prix at Sutton – Martin Rogers 020 8647 4053, Surrey Trials – Jane Barella 020 8240 6086 and Surrey Schools – Neil Williams 01372 813648.