

Essex Junior Squad Report – 2009/2010

U11s – Very much work in progress – trained weekly on Sundays at Bower Park

U13s – Train weekly on Thursday evenings at Bower Park with Steve Bish.

- Came third in their Shires League group.
- In the Team challenge runners up in their region, in the finals came 9th.
- A large number of squad members represented Essex in various county events
- At the end of the season there were 6 grade 2 players some of which are still under 13 next season.
- Winners of the Eastern Region Under 12
- Winners of the Eastern Region U13 Single Sex event (for lower graded players) both boys and girls.

U15s – Until Christmas trained weekly on Wednesdays at David Lloyd Gidea Park with Ian Pearson and Chris Dakin.

- Narrowly came second in their Shires League after losing to Herts. but a great win against Suffolk, in the finals they came 5th.
- In the Team challenge runners up in their region, in the finals came 9th
- Some very promising U14s – looks good for next year.
- The season ended with 1 grade 1 and 10 grade 2s.
- Runners up in the Eastern Region Under 14 to Herts.

U17s – Trained weekly at David Lloyd with Ian Pearson and Chris Dakin

- Just came second in their Shires League after losing to a very strong Bucks side. In the finals they came 8th
- In the ICT played at Nottingham Uni in April the team was placed 10th. 4 team members will still be under 17 next season so good prospects for next season.
- The season ended with 4 of the squad grade 1, 9 grade 2s – a great achievement.
- Winners and 3rd place in the Eastern Region Under 16

Unfortunately we lost the venue we were using for regular county training at Christmas and have not been able to find an alternative. However, we now have 2 performance centres in the Essex area and we are looking to utilise the expertise of their coaches for regular junior training on an ongoing basis.

Darryl Hardcastle has coordinated the introduction of Forza 1 and 2 star tournaments throughout the season. The 1 star events are aimed at school players and the 2 star for club players. County team members are not eligible. These have been very successful and very well attended. The aim of these events is to get more youngsters competing.

Helen Turrell