

HIGHLAND SPRING Waverley Junior Open

Fresh from its Tennis Scotland Tournament of the Year award in 2007, a record entry of 311 players from Inverness to London saw 'The Waverley' herald the start of another summer season of junior tennis competition across Scotland in 2008, with HIGHLAND SPRING as its new title sponsor.

Mixed weather, 4 different types of ball, 5 different match formats, and travel delays made for an eventful week for the Refereeing team, but with growing support from the neighbouring Craigmillar Park and Priestfield clubs, some 550 matches were completed over a hectic Easter week.

Having held Under 8 events since its inception in 1993, the 2008 tournament saw the introduction of Mini Tennis RED, ORANGE and GREEN and a Finals Day Mixed Doubles alongside the traditional events.

Highlights this year included RED and ORANGE titles for young Alexandra Hunter; Adam Stevenson surviving an epic semi-final against Scott Duncan before winning the Boys Under 14; and an extremely close Girls Under 14 final where Sophie Dunlop just pipped a fast-maturing Alice Keddie. Heather Elder and Leigh Kasperek swapped Under 16 and 18 titles, but Scott Lister lost both to Kester Black and James Drummond respectively.

Reuben Henry lost out to John Boden in a high quality Under 12 final, but sister Claudia restored family pride in the Girls event. The RED events were won by the promising George Baird, and Serena Nash, a welcome visitor from Birmingham. James Sinclair won a strong Boys ORANGE event, with Cameron Kerr winning what might be the first of many Waverley titles in the RED event.

As ever, the twin Waverley themes of COMPETITION and FUN were evidenced in equal measure, led by a strong Borders contingent who dominated both the Mixed Doubles event (won by) and the nominations for Tournament Personality, finally jointly awarded to Michael Fairbairn & Michael McGhee. And the new HYDRATION theme proved to be a great success – with new sponsor HIGHLAND SPRING already signed up for 2009 !!

RESULTS

Under 8 Girls Winner	Alexandra Hunter (David Lloyd Edinburgh)
Under 8 Boys Winner	Cameron Kerr (Strathgryffe)
Under 9 Girls Winner	Alexandra Hunter (David Lloyd Edinburgh)
Under 9 Boys	George Baird (Western) bt Hamish Stewart (Western) 7-4, 7-5
Under 10 Girls	Serena Nash (Heaton) bt Nicole Clarke (Prestwick) 4-1, 1-4, 0-4
Under 10 Boys	James Sinclair (Prestwick) bt Aaron Hepburn (Nairn) 4-0, 4-2
Under 12 Girls	Anna Brogan (Newlands) bt Claudia Henry (Blackhall) 6-0, 6-1
Under 12 Boys	John Boden (Northumberland) bt Reuben Henry (Blackhall) 6-3, 6-2
Under 14 Girls	Sophie Dunlop (Strathgryffe) bt Alice Keddie (Next Generation Monifieth) 7-6, 3-6, 10-8
Under 14 Boys	Adam Stevenson (Prestwick) bt Bruce Strachan (Rubislaw) 6-1, 6-2
Under 16 Girls	Heather Elder (Blackhall) bt Leigh Kasperek (Thistle) 6-3, 6-2
Under 16 Boys	Kester Black (Prestwick) bt Scott Lister (Linlithgow) 6-4, 1-6, 10-8
Under 18 Girls	Leigh Kasperek (Thistle) bt Heather Elder (Blackhall) 6-2, 6-1
Under 18 Boys	James Drummond (Whitecraigs) bt Scott Lister (Linlithgow) 6-2, 6-0