

## Ladies Squash Development continues apace 3-way friendly with Cardiff Medics, Monmouth and Rhiwbina Friendly Match

Following the big hit back in January with our friendly against Cardiff Medics ladies, we have expanded the scope further afield and attracted a third team of ladies to join in our friendly match days. Saturday morning 10<sup>th</sup> March saw 18 ladies from the 3 different clubs descend on Rhiwbina for the second ladies friendly event.



This time we brought in some new faces and new members with Fiona Benjamin and Amy Thompson (new members) to complement Morgan Richards, Kate Gibson, Mel Proudlock, Becky Baker and Judy Wright. Unfortunately as we were running the defibrillator training at the same time in the bar, a few of our ladies team were unable to make the group photo at the start, sorry ladies!

Cardiff Medics added a couple of new faces to their line up at the top of their order, with Fi and Elinor, and Monmouth brought along Tessa, Nikki, Brenda, Nicola and Jenny.

A big well done also goes out to Fiona Benjamin for jumping in at the deep end and having a go at this event, despite being a beginner to squash.

Never an easy thing, but enjoyable in the end I think and great experience.





We managed a prompt start on Saturday, and had some exciting matches and some drama through the day too. First match on was Monmouth vs Cardiff Medics, with the strength and experience of Monmouth proving too much on the day for the Medics. They ran out 5-1 winners in a best of 3 to 15 format match to win 11-2. We "lent" Amy Thompson to the Monmouth ladies to even out the sides to 6 ladies each, a decision we would live to regret later....

Next match up was Rhiwbina vs Monmouth and what a match this was. It could not have been more finely balanced. And there was drama right from the start too, with Nikki from Monmouth tripping over Morgans feet and taking a nasty tumble into the corner. Luckily we had freshly trained ladies and Medics galore to make sure she was OK. A short injury break ensued while the other matches carried on. The matches were finely poised near the end 3-2 to Monmouth courtesy of Amys 2-0 win over Judy (I said we would regret the decision) so it was all down to Morgan to save the day which she did. The final match score then was 3-3 in matches and 6-6 in games.

So it was all down to the final scores in the Medics decider to see who would win. Unfortunately for us this time, it was a much closer affair this, with the new additions to the Medics side. We "scraped" through 4-2 in matches, 8-5 in games to finish second overall to Monmouth. Final scores and positions Monmouth  $1^{st} - 17pts$ , Rhiwbina  $2^{nd}$  14 pts and Medics a very creditable performance this time for  $3^{rd}$  with 7 pts.

We finished off with one more set of friendlies for good luck.

Thanks to Tej from Monmouth and Elinor from Cardiff Medics for helping to arrange this. Thanks also again to Ray Proudlock for helping out. A special thanks to Brenda and her "supporters" for coming along too.

It was a great turn out and brilliant day. It really was great to see so many ladies at the club playing competitively and enjoying it. We will, at the request of all present be looking to run more of the same, and trying to get more clubs involved too.

Thanks again to everyone!