## Team Wales Tournament Trip

## Halton U12 Grade 2

May 2019



**Players and coaches for Team Wales** 

National level junior events took place during the half term week at the end of May at U10, U12, U14, U16 and U18 age groups. These events were hosted at Halton Tennis Centre and Gosling Sports Park.

Tennis Wales were able to provide support to Welsh players in these events as part of the tournament support calendar for 2019. The number of players involved in the different age groups meant that on site coach support was provided at the U14 and U18 events while a full Team Wales trip was arranged for the U12 event.

The week started with Danny Flynn and Megan Davies playing in the U18 event in Gosling. Danny lost out in the last 16 but Megan notched up some wins to reach the semi-final of the singles and the final of the doubles. This was Megan's second semi-final of a national level junior event this year.

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In the U14 event at Halton Mimi Xu, Laila Mai Savage and Elina Pickerd-Barua competed. Laila lost in the first round to the top seed and eventual finalist, Elina lost in the first round but reached the final of the doubles while Mimi Xu won through to the semi-finals of the singles and won the doubles. Given that Mimi was competing in the age group above her own this was very impressive!

At the U10 event it was Archie Gray's turn to shine for Wales as he went on to win the boys event in clinical fashion. Archie has dominated the U10 National level events in recent months having won grade 2 events in Sutton and Nottingham at Easter prior to this. Well done also to Jemima Dean who won through the qualifying to reach the main draw.

The week was finished off in Halton with the Team Wales trip to the U12 event. The coaching team looked after the players to give their parents a break and it was Mimi Xu, Gracie Hurley and Ollie Page who made up the team. The players really enjoy being away on these trips and it is nice to see them growing in confidence and independence as well as competing hard and playing some high quality tennis.

Gracie and Ollie competed well but weren't able to make it past the 1st and 2nd round respectively. Mimi however won some more matches and ran out as the winner of the singles event and narrowly lost in the semi-final of the doubles.

Well done to all of the players who competed over the course of the week and also a big thank you to Fran Lewis and Rhodri Vaughan who captained the U12 team at Halton.



Chris Lewis (Team Wales Manager).

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