



Round Up - 2024 Bill Neill Lanarkshire Open

By Lanarkshire Badminton

The Lanarkshire Open took place at Alistair McCoist Complex in East Kilbride, South Lanarkshire over 14th & 15th September. Although entries were slightly down on last year the standard of play had not lessened .

For second year, the Gents singles was won by Ciar Pringle who defeated Finlay Jack retaining his title from 2023. It is very close battle between both players however Pringle managed to edge the win 21-18, 21-19. Pringle reflected on how it felt to win the title again, how he felt he performed and what he enjoys about this particular event:

"I feel really good to have won the tournament again. Especially since finishing up on the National Team at Christmas time playing tournaments has been really exciting because I don't play quite as often. It's good to still be able to compete in the Singles and I hope to as long as I can! So don't count me out just yet! I'll be causing havoc as much as I can for as long as I can!"

"Across the whole event, I was happy with my performances! There were some blips here and there that I wish I could tighten up a bit and be more solid but still happy with my play. I had both the Singles and Doubles competitions this weekend, so it was a tough battle after some hard singles games. Especially after a long Saturday, I was glad to continue the form on Sunday for the Singles Semis and Finals. The singles are a little bit slower than I used to be, but I feel

that I still put 100% into it and give it my all. Doubles, I really enjoyed as I rekindled an old partnership with Glen Lewington and we enjoyed ourselves on court. The younger boys really pushed us and then we got knocked out in the semis to the eventual winners with a good performance so I was happy overall and hope to continue battering away with Glen!"

"I have always enjoyed the BNLO. It was actually the event where I won my first ever Senior title so it holds a special place in my heart. I won the mixed in 2017 with my sister Caitlin so I am always glad to return and continue playing at it, and in this case bringing back another title. Any competition at this point is really exciting but especially after a long summer I'm glad to be back playing at the BNLO!"

Abbie Brooks won the ladies singles beating last years winner Vibha Ramen in a close final which was a 3 setter. Ramen was quickest out the blocks taking the opening set 21-19 although Brooks fought back to take 3rd set 21-16.

The Ladies Doubles was won by Toni Woods & Holly Newall who defeated Masters duo Jody Barral & Frances McLure. Woods won this event in 2022, runner up last year and was pleased to win the title again. She then teamed up with Evan Kenny to take the Mixed Doubles win over Katrina Chan & Lewis Coghill. Woods reflected on her successful weekend:

"I'm happy to win the double at BNLO especially with being a Lanarkshire player so it's a good one to win. I performed well throughout the 2 days and was confident we could do well in both events. The mixed was a nice extra win as me and Evan were 3rd seed and it was only our 2nd time playing together so was good to get the win. Overall it was an enjoyable weekend with some good games!"

The Mens Doubles was another close 3 set match, eventually won by Josh Taylor & Callum Crangle who beat Evan Kenny & Lewis Coghill 21-19 in the final set.

Group Convenor of Lanarkshire Badminton Group Jill Smith commented on the excellent effort & competitiveness that the players displayed:

"It was a good start to the season and good to see all the competitors enjoying themselves and putting a fantastic and entertaining weekend for those watching"

We would like to thank our team of volunteers who were there over the weekend which included Frank Turnbull the Tournament Organiser and the team of Jill Smith, Pam Casey, Sam Johnston and Euan Murray.

For the full results from the event, click [here](#).