

2011 Participation and Results



Inter School Zonal Competition

C BOYS FINALS

In the C boys finals, Ngiam Bin started for SSP in the 1st singles. His challenger was a very tough nut to crack. Eventually, Ngiam Bin could not contain Bimo Prasoko's power and strength and went down 12-21, 10-21. It was not an easy tie but Ngiam Bin played well to show the "never-say-die" attitude. He went down fighting.

In the 1st doubles, Lim Wei Leong and Tay Li Wei had an easy victory against the Montfort pair. They swept aside their opponents 21-8, 21-6. This victory got the ball rolling. Leslie stepped up and got SSP 1 step closer by winning effortlessly 21-9, 21-11.

I must commend the 2nd doubles, we were made up of 2 new recruits. Bernard and Wilfred only train with us for 2 months and displayed a performance that will not be forgotten. They defeated their stronger and bigger opponent in a very close encounter. Set by set, point for point. In the end, our SSP boys managed to withstand the pressure better and gave SSP the victory. They defeated Jason Wong and Jerome Wong 23-21, 19-21 and 21-17. With this win, we broke Montfort's dominance in the C division.

B BOYS FINALS

In the B boys finals, we were not so lucky. Our boys played well but eventually could not find the extra strength to finish strong. The boys have vowed to work harder so that history will not repeat itself. SSP lost to Montfort 0-3 in the B division finals.

Sean Lee stepped up for SSP in the 1st singles. He put in great effort to stop the Montfort from winning the opening tie but sadly he went down 14-21, 9-21. Haafizh and Moen brought plenty of excitement and cheer to the crowd as their game was filled with fast smashes and speedy movements. Inexperience got the better of SSP as they played against a very strong pair from Montfort. They lost out 13-21, 15-21 to Jamie Wong and Chandra Sianipar.

Terry Hee played the 2nd singles and the team looked towards him to withstand the Montfort onslaught. He played well but he did not have the extra strength when needed. He lost in the narrowest margin 22-20, 15-21, 21-23 to Yoshiko Sianipar. It was a pity that SSP could not manage to stretch Montfort all the way. The coaches and boys have vowed to analyze the games and work harder in the National rounds.

B GIRLS FINALS

For the 3rd year running, we are still the Queen of North Zone. This afternoon, we defeated Xinmin Sec Sch 3-2. This was an unexpected victory as SSP was clearly the underdogs. Xinmin had 4 foreign players this year and SSP was weakened by 3 integral players who have moved on to the National team upon graduation.

However, this did not stop our girls from defending our title. The girls put up a spirited performance and fought all the way to victory. Marissa, only sec 2, but playing in the older division picked up valuable lessons from Thitirat. Marissa obviously being younger did not start well but managed to force Thitirat into many rallies. The coach will have to put in more effort into bringing Marissa up to speed to play with the bigger girls. We hope that this match will make Marissa work harder so that she can do well in the Individual and National rounds.

In the 1st doubles, Joline Chua and Gao Yue Mian had an easy time against Xinmin. They swept aside their opponents very quickly with a 21-10, 21-12 performance. This victory got the ball rolling for SSP.

Fiona stepped up against Aurkan Vattanapoon. This match could not be any closer as Fiona managed to steal an unexpected victory from her tougher and stronger opponent. Fiona gave everything she got and put up an unforgettable performance that got the crowd shouting for more. There was never a point where Fiona could rest. Eventually, Fiona edged out with a 23-21, 21-19 win. Fiona's performance was commendable as she showed plenty of fighting spirit and perseverance in the game.

Grachel and Sofia were now tasked to finish the game strongly for SSP. The crunching tie between Lerdvolalak and Charlotte was not an easy victory. Both sides were obviously very nervous from the start to the end. Thankfully our girls managed to hold the nerves a little better to win the important game for SSP. The 22-20, 16-21, 21-19 victory ensures that the title remains at Champions Way for the 3rd year running.

The team looks forward to the Individual Championships and National Championships.

Inter School (Individual) Championships

It was a very exciting Age Group Finals. SSP were competing in 4 events, U14 Boys Singles, U14 Boys Doubles, U16 Girls Singles and U16 Girls Doubles.

The Finals started off with the Singles events. Fiona and Leslie stepped up to try and snatch victories from the foreign counter parts. Leslie's opponent was Bimo from Montfort Sec. Bimo is not new to the badminton scene. He was last year U14 Boys Singles 2nd runners up.

Leslie would have to contain Bimo strong attacking prowess in order to snatch the victory. Leslie started off well in the 1st set. It was neck to neck all the way but Bimo was able to find something extra to clinch the 1st set, 21-19. The 2nd set Leslie was unable to rediscover his form and touches and he lost out eventually in the 2nd set 21-14. It was a worthy

performance by Leslie but there will need to be more work done before Leslie manages to catch up with his opponent.

Fiona was up against a very strong opponent. Nattaporn Triyachart was last year winner. Fiona tried her best and was doing well in the opening sets but somehow Nattaporn was able to step up and play at a faster pace after every interval break. Fiona lost 21-11, 21-14. This match is a very good learning experience for Fiona.

Next up was the Doubles Finals. The coaches felt that we had a good chance of winning both doubles title but it was very jittery start for both doubles. They were a little overawed by their opponents but they soon kept up to speed when the dust settles.

Fiona and Joline were a little lost in the opening set; Nattaporn / Lerdvolalak were too quick off the blocks and won the game easily 14-21. Our girls managed to calm their nerves and fought back. They stunned the opponents with good plays in the front area. Fiona and Joline won the 2nd set 21-16. This sets up a very exciting 3rd set.

It was a nail biting rubber set. Point for point, both parties did not want to give up the title so easily. Fiona and Joline changed strategy and started more power plays. They were able to dig deep within them and hold out their opponents with a 21-18 victory. This was the 2nd time we have defended the U16 Girls Doubles title.

Leslie and Kean Yew did not start well also. They lost the 1st set 16-21. Our boys made it too easy for the Montfort pair in the opening set. In the 2nd set, after the coaches' tips, Kean Yew started to take control of the net so that Leslie can finish off the points with big smashes. Leslie and Kean Yew were sending strong message to Bimo / Rizky that the game is not over. Our boys stamped their authority in the 2nd set.

In the 3rd set, both teams start out cautiously and did not take any risky chances. Again with clearer net plays and good control in the net court areas, SSP were able to outwit our opponents. Kean Yew clever control in the front area followed by thumbing big smashes were clearly the right tactics to ensure SSP defended the U14 boys doubles title. This is the 2nd time that Leslie won the U14 Boys Doubles. Leslie was also a winner in 2009 partnering Terry Hee. We hope that Kean Yew can carry on the tradition of winning back to back titles.

The academy next target will be the Inter School Championships. It will be tough and we hope to do well.

Summary of Pilot Pen Individual Championships:

Name	Event	Position
Tan Ming Shun	U14 Boys Singles	3rd
Leslie Teng	U14 Boys Singles	2nd
Leslie Teng/Loh Kean Yew	U14 Boys Doubles	Champion
Fiona Seah	U16 Girls Singles	2nd
Grachel Teo/Cheng Ruiying	U16 Girls Doubles	3rd
Joline Chua / Fiona Seah	U16 Girls Doubles	Champion
Gerald Ong	U16 Boys Singles	Champion
Gerald Ong/Terry Hee	U16 Boys Doubles	3rd