



Under-13 finalists Ben Taylor, left, and Jake Haines enjoyed another tight clash with, on this occasion, the latter emerging winner in five.

(Picture by Steve Sarre, 7062342)

BEAU SEJOUR hosted the Junior Island Squash Championships and with some familiar names missing there was an opportunity for some up-and-coming players. There was an increase in the number of U11 and U13 players which resulted in an exciting competition and a glimpse into the future of Guernsey squash.

The weekend started with the boys' U11 event, made up of two groups of seven players in a round-robin format.

Group A saw Daniel Thomas finish behind Marco Phillips while in group B the outcome went to countback after there was a tie between Jake Le Roux and Michael Kennedy, who both finished on 47 points behind winner Marcus Thomas.

Both semi-finals proved to be very competitive with Phillips beating Le Roux and Marcus Thomas beating brother Daniel to make the final.

And in that final it was No. 1 seed Phillips who took control to win 2-0 and become U11

Number increase in young age-groups

The Junior Island Squash Championships provided a platform for the island's young players to demonstrate their abilities in an exciting competition

island champion. In the boys' U13, defending champion Ben Taylor beat Cameron James in his semi-final and Jake Haines beat Noah Purdue to set up a repeat of last year's final. A real rivalry has built up over the last two years, with

Taylor just holding the upper hand, but this year it was Haines who held his nerve to edge it 3-2 and win his first island title.

Noah Purdue beat Cameron James in the third-place tie. With last year's winner Jack Turvey injured, it was

Patrick Josey who showed his experience in the boys' U15 event, playing controlled squash to win the title. In a round-robin format he played accurate shots to manoeuvre his opponents around the court and win all of his matches.

Michael Davies finished second, Jacques Cloete third and Josh Le Breton in fourth. Sammy Parr was crowned U19 champion with both of his opponents unable to play due to illness.

The girls' U11 was a close affair with no clear favourite, with Rachael Bertrand crowned champion ahead of Cara Lenfesty, Emma Bloese and Jess Hurdley. Charlotte Lythgoe beat Catherine McConnell in the girls' U13 final and Danielle Parr was girls' U15 champion.