

ATHLETE FOCUS



SCOTSTOUN SQUASH SENSATION

Robyn McAlpine

2023 has already been a year to remember for squash star Robyn McAlpine. The 16-year-old Scotstoun local has made history by becoming the first junior woman to capture the Scottish Under 17s, 19s and 23s titles in the same season.

This spectacular year is set to continue as Robyn leads the Scottish junior women's team at the WSF World Junior Championships in Melbourne this July. With funding in the sport tight, Robyn is raising the funds to support her trip to the tournament in Australia.

Robyn plays for the Scotstoun Eagles, based at Glasgow Club Scotstoun, in the West of Scotland league and her home courts will host a doubles event on 3rd and 4th June 2023 to help raise funds for the Scotstoun Squash Sensation.

We caught up with Robyn, an athlete supported by Glasgow Life's Talented Sports Performer Programme, in the week before the tournament that will take place on the Commonwealth Games courts at Scotstoun where she has sharpened her skills over the last 6 years.

How did you get involved in squash?

"I first started playing in primary 6 as at school we did a different sport every 6 weeks for PE. There were loads of different squash sessions on at Glasgow Club Scotstoun that my friends went to, so I went along too."

What do you enjoy most about playing squash?

"I enjoy that there is always something you can get better at. I also enjoy how everyone plays a different style and learning how to beat different styles gives me a good challenge. I also get to meet and make friends with people all over the world."

What has been your best moment as a player?

"Winning the u17, u19 and u23 nationals is one of the best moments of my career as nobody has ever done it before. Also winning the Nordic Junior open as I beat the European number 1 in the final."

What inspires you?

“When I go away to big tournaments and see the best players in the world it inspires me to want to be as good as them. My dad and my coach also inspire me to reach my potential as they put a lot of time and effort into helping me reach my goals.”

What are your plans for your future in Squash?

“My goal is to be top 10 in the world so next season I’m going to start playing professional tournaments and start building my world ranking.”

Why should people play squash?

“It’s a fun way of doing exercise and seeing your friends at the same time, it also gives a lot of opportunities and experiences.”

If you want to help Robyn and the Scottish Junior Women’s team make the WSF World Junior Championships in Melbourne this July visit their GoFundMe page.

Squash at Glasgow Club Scotstoun

Glasgow Club Scotstoun is one of the biggest leisure facilities in the city. It is home to six singles squash courts, which were originally built to host the 2014 Commonwealth Games. They have the unique ability to convert our courts to doubles squash courts.

Scotstoun has a range of programmes for people to enjoy squash, the adult programme is ideal for anyone looking to improve their game of squash - there are regular social and club sessions, together with inclusive coaching sessions for all levels of ability and ages. Our junior coaching programme is run by fully qualified coaches in partnership with Scotstoun Eagles Squash Club.

If you would like more information about getting involved in squash at Glasgow Club Scotstoun please email squashandracketball@glasgowlife.org.uk or visit www.glasgowlife.org.uk/sport/squash

