



Project Small Fry

So what is Project Small Fry?

Back in June 2009, Boon Chuan Tay (a member of DTBA and who prefers to be known as BC) floated the idea to the then Committee to provide a free Badminton skills sharing clinic for students at a Primary school located in the City of Manningham.

The Doncaster Primary School (DPS) is the logical choice to promote this program as there is already a shared services arrangement between DTBA and DPS

A proposal was put forward to the Principal of DPS for a 6-week once a week pilot program to commence in August 2009. This proposal was readily accepted by DPS. DPS suggested that this program be initially for year 5 and 6 students. The Badminton skills sharing session will be conducted during the school's lunch break

A drive for old rackets to be donated for this program was initiated and the response from our generous members was overwhelming. In a short period of time about 40 rackets were donated or "loaned" to the club for this wonderful initiative.

On that momentous day in August 2009, the term dearly used by BC, the three amigos which comprised of BC, John Kok and Ming Chu turned up for the pilot program unbeknown what is awaiting them. The turn out for the first session of the pilot program was unbelievable. More than 40 students turned up for the session. The buzz from the students when they turned up was soothing. Their enthusiasm and their excitement made that momentous day in August 2009 more memorable and vindicated that the club had embarked on the right direction. How the three amigos managed on that day is still to be marveled at and with the assistance from the teachers, they survived both mentally and physically

It was prudent despite the three amigos gigantic effort more volunteers from the club will be required to better manage these skill Badminton sharing sessions. Thankfully and very proudly our members responded to our call for help again and the subsequent sessions were adequately "managed" despite the constant high turnout of students



Extension of the Pilot Program

As a result of the tremendous response to the pilot program, it was only logical to extend the program to the end of 2009.

Continuation of the PSF program in 2010 and beyond

In 2010 this wonderful program was extended to include grade 4 students. It was very obvious from week one of the new program that the facility at the DPS hall is inadequate to cope with the large turnout of enthusiastic students (in the high 40s to low 50s). As a consequence of the long wait between participation in the program, the turnouts dropped to the low 40s which is regrettable.

In 2011, DPS is still promoting this game to grades 4 to 6 students only. The turnouts continue to be very good

Moving Forward with confidence

With the diligence of DTBA's coaching group, DPS sports coordinators and the enthusiasm and the natural ability of our DPS students, 4 teams were enrolled to participate in the 2010 - Victoria State Primary School Badminton Championships, recently concluded in early September. This is the first participation in the competition in the school's history. Two of our teams progressed to the Finals for Division 1 with one team eventually became Runners-up in the Division 1 competition. What a fantastic result and achievement despite undergoing such a short coaching program. Moreover, what an experience and exposure these groups of youngsters would have which will instil greater confidence for future Championships.

In 2011, 3 teams were enrolled to participate in the 2011 - Victoria State Primary School Badminton Championships held on the 7th of September in MSAC (Albert Park). The competition is against 17 other primary schools throughout Victoria. All the three teams performed extremely well and were not overawed by the occasion. The all boys team finished runners-up missing out by a mere 3 points. Well done girls and boys!!



Some memorable and proud moments to share



Runners-up – the all boys team - 2011 - Victoria State Primary School Badminton Championships



The mixed team - 2011 - Victoria State Primary School Badminton Championships

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The all girls team - 2011 - Victoria State Primary School Badminton Championships



Our Coaching Group

Our coaching group has now expanded to a very commendable number of 18. A majority of the coaching group has acquired Level 1 Coaching Accreditation a course conducted by Badminton Victoria. A couple of our coaches are embarking on the Level 1 Advance Coaching accreditation which is very challenging and time consuming. With their dedication and determination the club is confident they will prevail

DTBA extends sincere appreciation to the group of coaching volunteers for PSF which comprise of.

Boon Chuan Tay	John Kok	Ming Chu	Tony Ong	Su Ching Ong
Jenny Morcom	Ben Koh	Lee Hills	Louis TM Leung	Lily Wong
Miki Lee	Alan Smith	Kim Akarasriprapai	Ming Akarasriprapai	David Pang
Seng Hock Tan				

Without their sheer grit, determination and dedication the club would not have achieved what it had set out to achieve.

To those who are interested to be part of this wonderful volunteer group, please contact the Committee. More volunteers are required to sustain this wonderful program