World Squash Federation
Development Conference 2012

Inflatable Mini Squash Court
Presented by Mike Cornish
The Beginning

Why

When

Where
Advantages of the Inflatable Mini-Squash Courts

Enables coaches to take squash to schools

School Incursion versus Excursion

Promotions for regions without squash courts

Events marketing tool

Novelty factor of the ‘bouncy castle’ effect adds more fun to the session
Inflatable Squash Road Show

On Wednesday, 8 August 2012, the senior undercover area was instantly transformed into two squash courts, thanks to the WA Squash’s Inflatable Squash Road Show. The incursion saw students from years four to seven take part in a skill session followed by practice on the large inflatable squash courts. The Inflatable Squash Road Show program was designed with the emphasis of getting children aged 10-12 into the local community squash facility. The road show spent the week travelling through the Filledon region, visiting schools and getting students interested in squash.

Instructors Mike and Josh taught students the basic skills required in squash before using those skills on the inflatable squash courts. Students aimed for marked areas on the inflatable courts, which helped students learn new terminology. After passing their serves and returns, students started versus one another in small matches. By the end of the session, our students competed to see which team, and subsequently student, was class champion. Students had an excellent experience with many of them eager to play more squash.

The opportunity was given to students to join Mike and Josh after school, down at the Paraburdoo Squash Courts, for some free sessions on a standard squash court. This after school sessions was kindly organised solely by Josh and Mike and was not school related. Nearly thirty students showed up to the courts and had an enjoyable time. Many students are now interested in the sport, just as the program was intended, so hopefully in the near future Paraburdoo children have the opportunity to act on this interest.

Thanks to Mike, Josh and Western Australia Squash for a great incursion. We hope to see our kids on the squash courts soon!

- Mr Kunabutr

Photographs and video footage by Dennis, Jaynie, Madison & Mason

Instructors Mike and Josh proved a hit with our students, actively engaging them and having an enjoyable session.

Jared, Robert and Mickey practice returning the ball to the server.

Before playing in the inflatable courts, students needed to learn basic ball handling skills.

Madison watches as Jaynie serves the squash ball.
Court Specifications

Court Dimension

Length = 4m
Width = 4m
Height = 3m

Weight
Court = 90kg
Blower = 17kg

Court Dimension (Storage size, cylinder shape)
1.5m long, 600mm diameter
Hopetoun Primary School
Western Australia
Recommended equipment to carry with the courts

Van or wagon to transport courts
Extension lead and heavy duty power box
Trolley

Coaching Equipment
Mini Squash Rackets
‘Big Hands’, Big Hand balls, balloons, tape and markers
School holiday recreational program

Events - World Sports Expo, Fitness Industry Shows/seminars

Shopping centre promotions

Tournament booth for squash products
Schoolyard Programming

Ages 5-7 BIG HAND PROGRAM, skill acquisition based
Ages 8-10 MINI SQUASH, skills based
Ages 10-13 MINI SQUASH Games based

Warm-up games, followed by familiarisation and skills practice outside of the courts
Program moves onto the courts about 20 minutes into the session
Media Testimonial

Since 2008, we have shown a steady increase in junior playing organised squash from around 300 in 2008 to now over 950 in 2012.
School Holiday Program;
Stockholm, Sweden 2011
Outcomes

Effective promotional tool
Needs to be utilised by innovative, personable outgoing coaches
Is a user friendly option
Create fun environment
Talent identification

*Remember it's all about playing the game*
Its not real squash is it?

How many persons do you need to handle the courts?

How do you engage a whole class on two courts?

Why do we need the floor when the creases interfere with the rally?

What about the noise of the blowers?
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