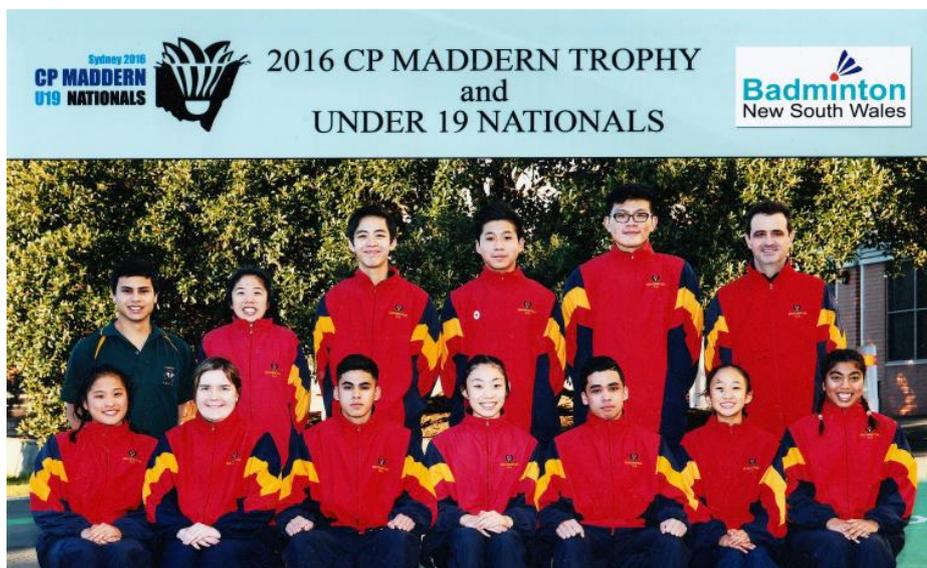


UNDER 19 STATE TEAM 2016



Back Row: Sheehan Lim (Umpire), Michelle Au (Manager), Jonathan Wong, Irvin Ong, Ray Liao, Chris Thirlwell (Coach)
Front Row: Georgia Zhang, Tatyana Hubczenko, Keith Edison, Aim Aroonsiri, Tristan Edison (Captain), Yasmin Say, Nitya Gunesagaran

This year the selected U19 team travelled to Sydney Olympic Park to compete in the 2016 CP Maddern Trophy & U19 Individual Championships from July 1st to July 7th. In addition to the nine South Australian players, we were joined by NSW junior, Yasmin Say, for an extra female substitute. We were also fortunate to be assigned Sheehan Lim (ACT) as our team umpire for the carnival.

The opening tie of the CP Maddern Trophy saw South Australia meet previous winners, Victoria. South Australia started strong, taking both the men's doubles with combinations; Irvin & Jonathan putting in a fantastic fight to clinch a 3rd set 21-19! They were backed up by Keith & Tristan in a comfortable straight set win at 1st men's doubles. Our SA boys continued their winning streak in their singles with Jonathan, Tristan & Keith defeating their Victorian counterparts. Unfortunately, the mixed doubles were in the Victoria's favour, despite three-set efforts by Tristan & Nitya and Keith & Aim respectively. *South Australia were defeated by Victoria, 5 matches to 11.*

The second tie for South Australia was up against Tasmania. Once again the boys started strong with the combinations of Irvin & Jon, and Keith & Tristan claiming their respective doubles. Aim & Nitya breezed through their Tasmanian opponents also. Ray Liao's debut at U19 Nationals and first win of the carnival was in his very tight men's singles, coming up on top 21-19, 25-23! Aim, Nitya, Yasmin, Jonathan, Keith & Tristan also secured singles wins against Tasmania. *South Australia defeated Tasmania 13 matches to 3.*

Day 2 was set to be a tough day, with a match up against a strong Western Australian team in the morning & eventual champions, NSW Thunder in the afternoon. The South Australian doubles combinations battled hard against the West but could only manage a doubles victory from Aim & Nitya at 1st WD. The singles continued to prove to be highly contested with 3-set efforts by Yasmin & Jonathan but unfortunately picked at the post in the final rallies. Aim was the only singles victor, in a three-set battle also. *South Australia were defeated by Western Australia 3 matches to 13.* The afternoon tie against NSW Thunder was tough work, despite a strong doubles performance by Keith & Tristan winning 21-14 in the 3rd set. Both boys continued their form into the singles, with a solid win by Keith over HD Tang. Tristan was the star performer in the singles, with a very convincing win over and Australian National squad member, 21-8, 21-5. Despite a lot of tough games for the younger members of the team, they gained a lot of experience from highly ranked players. *South Australia were defeated by NSW Thunder 3 matches to 13.*

The final day of the CP Maddern Teams event was against NSW Lightning, a young team, quite evenly matched with our team's line up this year. Keith & Tristan were once again, comfortable in their doubles victory, with both boys in form and winning their respective singles also. Irvin gave it his all in his singles but was unlucky in final rallies of the third set. Aim showed flashes of fighting spirit and sass in her straight sets win at 1st WS. Jonathan & Georgia combined swimmingly to take their mixed doubles 21-9, 21-18. *South Australia were defeated by NSW Lightning 10 matches to 6.*

The final standings for the 2016 CP Maddern Trophy were as follows;

1. NSW Thunder
2. Victoria
3. Western Australia
4. NSW Lightning
5. South Australia
6. Tasmania

The Australian U19 Championships commenced the following day, with preliminary matches for all our players. There were a number of star results by our players;

- ▣ Nitya & Aim were quarter-finalists in women's doubles.
- ▣ Keith & Lauren (VIC) were mixed doubles semi-finalists.
- ▣ Tristan and Keith were both singles semi-finalists.
- ▣ Tristan & Keith were the 2016 U19 Men's Doubles Runners Up.

An outstanding performance by brothers, Keith & Tristan Edison to make the final of the Men's Doubles. They played a tough three-set final, with opportunities in all the sets. Most definitely the most exciting and tough fought final played on the day, and well supported by their SA cheering squad.

Each year, South Australia donates the Joy Twining Sportsmanship Trophy for the best sportsperson, playing ability & court demeanour of the carnival. This year's recipient of the Joy Twining Sportsmanship Trophy was **Lauren Lim (Victoria)**.

The farewell function to conclude the carnival was held in Silverwater, with bubble soccer and sports for all the players. It provided an opportunity for the players to socialise before the other teams flew back to their respective states.

On behalf of the South Australian U19 team, we would like to thank a number of supporters for their fundraising efforts and donations, which helped significantly throughout the trip. Much of the donations went towards feeding the players for the week, as well as substantial deductions off each individual's invoice.

We would also like to personally thank the Badminton Veterans Association of South Australia (BVASA), the South Australian Ladies Badminton Association (SALBA) for their very generous donations. We would like to furthermore thank Supattra Hom-On and her team for their incredible fundraising efforts at the Authentic Thai Dinner and fundraising raffles. The SA team would also extend their thanks to all the supporters; from small donations to raffle ticket buyers – all is very much appreciated by each & every one of the team.

Michelle Au
2016 U19 Manager