

October 22, 2012

Eagles Badminton Team Makes Their Mark in Kamloops

(Metro Vancouver) – The Men's and Women's Eagles Badminton Team had a solid opening weekend in the first tournament of the 2012-2013 season at Thompson Rivers University (TRU) in Kamloops from October 19th-20th. With a big roster of 14 athletes, the Eagles are looking to be a force to be reckoned with this year as they make their mark on the PACWEST stage.

After Day 1 action, the Eagles found themselves in a comfortable second place position behind first place Douglas by a mere 32 points. The Eagles beat TRU in straight sets as well as Langara (3-2) but lost to VIU (2-3) and Douglas (1-4) to capture second place overall due to the win over the Langara Falcons. Men's Doubles partners, Ted Chen (New Brunswick) and Jamie Arseneau (Surrey), took on VIU in 2 straight sets to solidify the Eagles outcome. The Eagles would hold onto second place overall with a total of 295 points after Day 2 with only 68 points separating them from first place Douglas (363 points).



Day 1 of the individual events would mirror that of Day 1 of the team events with the Eagles settling into second position again behind first place Douglas with only 36 points separating the two schools. Day 2 of the tournament saw veteran Eagles Men's Doubles First Team, Andy Wong (Vancouver) and Willis Kwee (Richmond) come second with a hard fought game against top-ranked Douglas in a close three game match. Eagles Men's Doubles Second Team consisting of Chris Chung (Hong Kong) and Ted Chen would advance to Pool A but would finish fourth after a loss to Langara's number one team.

In Women's Doubles, Eagle First Team consisting of Grace Whang (Surrey) and Paulina Hsu (Delta), placed fourth after losing to Douglas in a very close match in Pool A. Second Team, Lisa Doan (Surrey) and Danielle Himbeault (Vancouver) lost in the prelims but rallied back in the second round to secure fifth place. Mixed Doubles First Team partners, Chung and Doan placed fourth overall followed closely by the Eagles Second Team, Willis Kwee and Alisa Young (Vancouver). Other top honours go to Women's Single athletes Alisa Young placing third and Even Tong (Surrey) placing fifth.

"Overall, everyone played well," stated Head Coach, Morgan van Heukelom. "They showed good sportsmanship on and off the courts. Hands up for Chris and Ted to beat the number four ranked team in men's doubles and for Alisa and Even to take out the Douglas women's double [team]."

The Eagles have a few weeks off before they travel to the island for the second tournament of the season hosted by Vancouver Island University (VIU) from November 3rd-4th.

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