

Field hockey – coach wants his squad put under pressure



Chris Duncan (second right), coach to Scotland under-16, playing for Edinburgh University. Picture Nigel Duncan Media

Nine Edinburgh-based players have been named in by Scotland under-16 coach Chris Duncan for a three Test series against Ireland this weekend.

Duncan hopes his boys are challenged as recent jousts against Wales and Ulster have produced comfortable wins.

The Edinburgh-based playcaller wants his boys put under pressure and Duncan said: "We have fantastic group of gifted players who have worked seriously hard over the past nine months.

"The emphasis has been on their learning experience and preparing them with the habits they will require to become senior internationals.

"Undoubtedly, they have developed enormously and have begun to understand some of the qualities and behaviours required to reach the top level.

"The Ireland games are a great opportunity to play top quality opposition and hopefully provide three challenging matches."

Duncan added: "We have enjoyed the match experiences so far but, in reality, we have not been tested or challenged in a way that will bring the best out of the players.

"I hope we have three good contests this weekend and can deliver three performances which we will be pleased with."

The boys play on Friday at 18:30; Saturday (8 July) at 14:00 and Sunday (10:30) at Queen's University, Belfast.

Squad: Matthew Taylor, Jake Inglis and Cameron Bosi (all Inverleith); Andrew McAllister and Fraser Moran (Western Wildcats), Robbie Croll, Ralph Weissen, Alex Riddell, Jonathan Hawley and Ritchie McCluskey (all Grange), Sam Hill (Gordonians), Louis Gardiner and Andrew Lochrin (both Uddingston), John Stephen (Perthshire), Finn Halliday (Kelburne), Fraser Heigh (Watsonians), Struan Walker (Clydesdale), Jamie Golden (Grove Menzieshill), Euan Menzies (Hillhead), Charlie Jack (Borders Reivers).