

University of Kent Set To Be A Key Player for Table Tennis at the 2012 Olympics

Photo By: University of Kent



Alex Murdoch (left) with the University of Kent, Medway's Operations Director Jeff Brown

12/19/2006

Situated at Medway in south east England, close to where the table tennis events for the 2012 Olympic Games will be held; the University of Kent recently hosted a visit from the English Table Tennis Association.

The English Table Tennis Association aims to set up a series of training camps for players from all countries that will be competing in the 2012 Games. The camps, which need to have quick access to London, will allow players the opportunity to rest, relax and to work out using top grade sporting facilities.

Alex Murdoch, Chairman of the English Table Tennis Association, has visited the Medway campus and it would seem that the facilities available more than fulfil the necessary criteria.

Award Winning

He was able to see the University's state-of-the-art fitness suites, based in the award winning £7,000,000 Medway Building plus the Centre for Sports Studies facilities which include a twelve couch teaching clinic, a sports and human performance testing laboratory and sport-specific software that can provide dietary and motion analysis.

Staff from the University's Centre for Sports Studies will be able to offer athletes help and advice on subjects that are a crucial part of modern sport, such as psychology, nutrition

and injury prevention screening.

Apartments

During the Olympics top players will also be able to make use of the University's new student apartments in Pier Road, on Gillingham's waterfront.

The tour of the University was arranged by Bob Dimond, Medway Council's 2012 Olympics Co-ordinator. As part of the visit, Alex Murdoch also viewed the newly-opened, Lottery-funded Table Tennis Centre at the Howard School, Rainham, and met the centre's manager Steve Ward, a former Welsh international table tennis player.

Reputation

Most certainly the foreseeable future is an exciting time for south east England and Jeff Brown, the Medway's Director of Operations at the University of Kent, believes that the Medway region is fast gaining a reputation for being able to provide Olympic standard facilities.

"The fact that an organisation such as the English Table Tennis Association is spending time visiting Medway's universities and schools shows how serious we are about developing both sporting and cultural opportunities in the area," he said.