

McAdam reigns in Spain

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Young British Pathway athlete Conor McAdam took gold in the men's class 6-7 singles in the PTT Spanish Junior (U23) Tournament today in El Prat de Llobregat, with Development athlete Alex Bland taking bronze.

Bland, from Rotherham, had topped his group in men's class 6-7 yesterday with wins against the American Ari Arratia 3-0 and Noah Olsson from Sweden 3-1. McAdam lost his first group match to Conor O'Callaghan from Ireland 3-0 but went through to an all-British semi-final against Bland with a 3-0 win against class 7 player Sam Gustafsson from Sweden.

In today's semi-final it was 19-year-old McAdam, from Dundonald, who came out on top with a 3-1 win against 17-year-old Bland. In the final McAdam avenged his defeat yesterday to O'Callaghan, beating the Irishman 3-0 to take the gold – a great performance from the class 6 player.

"I thought I played better today than yesterday," said McAdam. "I felt I was more focused and ready to play well. I'm really happy with the outcome, especially after coming through some challenging matches."

"This was my best performance internationally," said Bland, "including winning my first match against a seeded player and my first medal so I am happy with what I have achieved, which is largely down to me putting less pressure on myself."

McAdam and Bland will join seven other British players in the senior tournament which starts tomorrow.

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