

KENT 1 BATTLE TO GLORY WINNING DIVISION 2D

Cippenham was the venue for the final matches of the County championships for Kent 1 and Kent 2, both in junior division 2D. Kent 1 comprised of team members Harry Lumb, Jide Owalabi, and Ross Wilson for the boys and Laura Yarnley and Emma Tovey for the girls. They had to face Dorset 2, Surrey 2 and Sussex 2. At the commencement of the days proceedings Kent 1 were level pegging with Sussex 2 with 8 points a piece but Sussex 2 had the advantage on legs.

Our first opponents were Dorset 2 and we had a resounding victory against them beating them comfortably 9-1. We then attacked Surrey 2 and beat them 8-2. It was then the battle of the two giants. At this stage we were neck and neck with Sussex 2. Harry played Tom Baxter and had a nail biting game against him narrowly losing in the 5th. The same fate befell Ross who lost 11-9 in the 5th also. Ross then beat Adam Douch in a tight five setter and Jide beat Helshan Weerasinghe in four. Emma had a tough game against Chelsea but came through brilliantly to beat Alison Beckingham 12-10 in the 5th with gritted determination and effort. This boosted the team and Harry then went on to beat Helshan in spectacular style and Jide beat Adam. Laura Yarnley, a solid player throughout the whole day, beat both her opponents and like Emma, showed class against Alison Beckingham beating her 11-9 in the 5th. Overall, there was a great atmosphere and support for each other. Well done to all for winning the division in style !

KENT 2

Kent 2 also had a successful day finishing around mid table. The team comprised of Philip Thomas, Sam Smith and Richard Carden for the boys and Claire Harvey and Lauren Beaumont for the girls. Their first opponents were Buckinghamshire 2. Sam Smith had a wonderful five setter against Alistair Laurenson coming through with steadfast steel and determination to beat him 12-10 in the 5th. Claire Harvey narrowly missed a triumph over Stephanie Mitchell. Sam Smith had another close game against Sam Nolan beating him in the 5th and Phil Thomas had a similar battle against Alistair Laurenson, again coming through to win. Overall, they won that match 6-4.

They then faced Dorset 2. Both the girls had a good win each and all the boys played exceptionally well. They beat Dorset 2 , 7-3.

Finally, they faced Sussex 3. Sam Smith beat Ricky Weston 3 straight but then the next five matches did not go their way although Lauren Beaumont played brilliantly against Emma Torkington, taking a leg off her and only just losing in the 5th. Phil also had a very close game with Sam Collins only just losing in the 5th. He came through later though, beating Ricky Weston three straight and Richard Carden had a battle against Sam Collins coming through to beat him 11-8 in the 5th. Their overall score was 3-7 to Sussex 3. Again, well done to all players who put in maximum effort throughout their matches.