



On the Line!

Newsletter of Hertfordshire Schools Badminton Association

April 2013

Important notices

HSBA Annual General Meeting, 2013

Notice is hereby given that the HSBA Annual General Meeting will be held on Wednesday 19 June at the Wellfield Room, Birchwood Leisure Centre, Longmead, Hatfield, AL10 0AN.

Those attending are asked to arrive by 19.45 hours so that the meeting may start promptly at 20.00 hours.

Trials for HSBA age-group squads for the 2013/14 season

Trials for 2013/14 County age group squads will be held at Hertfordshire Sports Village on Sunday 30 June at the following times:

13.00-15.00 hours Under 11 (Players born in 2003 or later)
15.00-18.00 hours Under 13 (Players born in 2001 or 2002)
15.00-18.00 hours Under 15 (Players born in 1999 or 2000)
11.00-13.00 hours Under 17 (Players born in 1997 or 1998)

Every player seeking a squad place must attend a trial for their own age group.

Players attending will complete a registration process on arrival at their trial, and this process can be speeded up by filling in a Player Information form beforehand and bringing it to the trial. This form can be obtained from the downloads page of the HSBA web-site at:

<http://www.hertsschoolsbadminton.co.uk/downloads.html>

Notice from the editor ... and a chance to win a valuable prize!

I recently conducted a small survey among a selection of the readership of On the Line! to find out whether electronic newsletter distribution would be preferred to the current postal service. The large majority (over 65%) said they would prefer to receive their newsletters by email, so if you are like them, just email me (J.R.Stobo@btinternet.com) with your name and that of your school or club, and I will put you on the email distribution list for future editions.

Electronic distribution certainly makes my life easier, so to encourage you to consider this option, On the Line! is offering a free tube of shuttles (feathers of course!) to the each of the first two readers who respond. That should help to launch your school or club's new season in September!

Prize winners' names will be published in the July 2013 edition of On the Line!

John Stobo

Herts teams in finals of Center Parcs National Schools Championships

**Christine Adey
and Caroline Jennings**

Congratulations to the boys' Under 14 team from Monk's Walk School in Welwyn Garden City and the girls' Under 14 team from St Clement Danes School in Chorleywood, who took both the U14 top spots at the Eastern Region Finals held recently in Cambridge and will represent the Region at the Grand Final being hosted by Center Parcs on 20 April.

Monk's Walk secured a place in the final with a 5-0 win against Thomas Deacon Academy from Cambridgeshire and a 4-1 win against Suffolk's Thurston College at the group stage. Competing for the top spot in the final against Monk's Walk was Bedford. In the first match Chris Adey faced the number one boy from Bedford, whom he had beaten, but only narrowly, on the one previous occasion that they had met in an inter-county match. Chris knew that for Monk's Walk to have a fighting chance he had to win this match. The boys looked evenly matched at the outset, trading points. However, after a few gruelling rallies, the Bedford boy started to tire and Chris won the match 21-10. Matthew Harden and Calum Wilson fought hard in the second match but lost their doubles 21-16. The pressure was then on Jack Kimber to win his singles match against another county player from Bedford. He kept his nerve well to win 21-14, giving Monk's Walk a 2-1 lead going into the fourth match. Although the opposition stormed into a 7-1 lead, Chris Adey and Matthew Harden fought back to level the score and then took control, securing overall victory with a 21-15 win. The final match score was 3-2 to Monk's Walk.

St Clement Danes won their initial box comfortably, the score being 4-1 against both Bedford and Norwich High School. The other group was dominated by a strong-looking Chelmsford County High School representing Essex who didn't drop a game in either of their matches against schools from Suffolk and Cambridgeshire. Two of their players were recognised as being Essex U15 county players. The play-off against them didn't get off to a great start: Clement Danes were 2-0 down with only 3 games left so had to win all the remaining games, eek! First up April Miller had to play a girl with a higher BE ranking. After a tight start and lots of long rallies April's consistency and attacking play prevailed, and she won 21-15. Next up Ellen Jennings and Ashley Eales who were neck and neck for most of their doubles game against the Chelmsford pair, but Ashley served extremely well and Ellen managed to find gaps and dominate the play for a 21-17 win. 2 games all! Lastly April and Clement Danes' secret weapon Olive Coles went on for the last doubles to decide the match. They trailed for first half of the game, and it seemed Chelmsford just had too much strength in depth. But Olive just never gave up, and like Ellen in the previous game, April did a great job of taking charge whenever she got the chance. Then, at 13-15, April and Olive suddenly went up a gear and the Chelmsford pair seemed to crumble. Clement Danes won 21-16 and had got themselves a place in the National finals!

Unfortunately the opposition proved too tough for the Herts teams competing at U16 level. Verulam Boys' School were unlucky to lose all their matches 3-2. Presdales Girls' School came second in their group and finished on a high with a convincing 5-0 win against a Cambridgeshire School in the play-off for third place. Two U16 teams from Essex will join the two U14 teams from Herts at the Grand Final.

Double doubles success at Nationals!

John Stobo

17 March was a red-letter day for two squad players at the English National Championships Series, bringing victory in girls' and boys' doubles events. In Nottingham, Keya Patani, partnering Molly Chapman, triumphed in the Under 13 age group, winning their final over Helen and Sian Kelly by 21-10, 21-17. At the same time in Redbridge, Matthew Widdicombe and his long-time training partner Angus Pedersen were sweeping all before them to take the Under 17 title, with a finals victory by 21-16, 25-23 over Craig and Marcus Smith.

Notable results were achieved by several squad players across the age groups of the English National Championships Series, and full details are reported in our results round-up service on pages 11 and 12. Congratulations are due to all squad players who had gained acceptance in their age group for this season's instalment of junior badminton's premier tournament series:

Under 13	Christopher Adey, Keya Patani, James Penver
Under 15	Lia Willis
Under 17	Philippa English, David Maughan, Hugo Weaver, Matthew Widdicombe

The English National Championships Series also includes the Under 19 age group, and while this age group is of course beyond the scope of HSBA's activities, it should be noted that at this year's tournament, played at the National Badminton Centre from 12-14 April, several present and former HSBA squad members achieved successes: Conor Bambrick reached the quarter-finals of the men's singles and the mixed doubles, partnering Jennifer Moore, while Matthew Widdicombe and Howard Stobo, partnering Angus Pedersen and Jack Smith respectively, reached the quarter-finals of the men's doubles.

York RIO, 2013

Lyall Daniels

A 6am start at Stevenage train station on a cold and snowy morning definitely livened the team up for the rest of the day. We were all waiting for our train while David thought he would make sure all of us were awake including other people on the platform by blowing his Vuvuzela. A lady on the platform asked us what train we were getting on. We replied the 6:15 to York and she then said "Oh good not my one then".

When we were on the train we were all resting in our seats apart from Matt who decided to lean back on the table and hit his head on the luggage rack to everybody's amusement. Once at Rio, David then decided to make sure Hugo was totally awake for his first game by blowing his vuvuzela in his ear. Hugo then took the vuvuzela off of David and threw it across the courts.

The team all warmed up while Geoff and Nicky did the Sainsburys shopping. Considering it was a long day, everybody played really well and supported each other. The trek back to the hotel in -5C was rather slippery but David still decided to wear his shorts. At dinner time the girls all decided to wear their onesies (it looked like London zoo with the variety of animals that were there). David skipped dinner and ordered a Domino's pizza. During the disco I think everyone saw Hugo wearing his cow onesie which was so tight you could make out each individual buttock.

The following morning it was another early start where we played two further matches whilst Gordon managed to get us on the earlier train back home. We then had to make a dash for the 2:30 train and managed to find seats for the trip home. We arrived at Stevenage station with 6 inches of snow and it was still falling. This made us all really happy as we found out there was a snow day on the Monday.

In the final reckoning, Herts took a well-earned fourth place. Hugo won the style award for the second year running, and Lia won the sportsmanship award which was well deserved.

Thanks to the coaches Dave, David, and Geoff as well as great support from Zoe (scorer), Nicky (shopper) and Gordon (photographer).

Editor's note: RIO is a prestigious two-day Under 17 team tournament which has been hosted by Yorkshire SBA for many years. Comprising eight invited County teams (though this year adverse weather prevented the Bucks and Warwicks teams arriving!), it serves as a warm-up for ICT, the national inter-county Under 17 team tournament. We hope to provide a report on the Herts team's performance at ICT in July's On the Line!

Eastern Region Under 12 Team tournament

Graham Clarke

A young Under 12 Hertfordshire team travelled to the Regional College in Cambridge for the Eastern Region U12 Team Tournament on 3 February. For many of the Herts team it was their first taste of playing in the county team.

We had six matches against Cambridgeshire, Essex 1, Essex 2, Norfolk1, Norfolk 2 and Suffolk. After narrowly losing the first three matches (all 6-3) to Essex 1, Norfolk 1, and Suffolk, the team battled hard to beat Norfolk 2 (6-3) and Essex 2 (9-0), but were again beaten 8-1 by the eventual winners, Cambridge. The team played well, seemed to enjoy the event and eventually finished 5th.

I would also like to thank Jo Goode for her help on the day.

Team: Molly Goode, Amelia Dixon, Fiona McArdle, Ashay Dhingra, Sonny Ward, Jack Glynn, Jason Haley

Eastern Region Under 14 Team tournament

John Stobo

This season it was Herts's turn to host this long-running event, and with the Under 13 and Under 15 squads both having good strength in depth in the age group, we were able to put out two teams to face opponents from Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Essex, Norfolk and Suffolk (or rather, there should have been a team from Norfolk, but for reasons still unexplained it did not materialise on the day!).

The needle match between Herts 1 and Herts 2 took place first, and while the 6-1 result in favour of Herts 1 may sound emphatic, in reality every game was hotly contested. The first team went on to win all its matches, most by some margin though with a wobble against Suffolk which resulted in a close 4-3 victory. The second team could not get the better of a strong Bedfordshire team, but won all its other games, including making a more convincing job of defeating Suffolk than the first team had! Games were closely fought throughout, with Herts 2's 6-1 victory over Cambridgeshire including two 21-20 scorelines, and it was an excellent achievement when Herts 1 emerged as winners and Herts 2 as the third-placed team behind Bedfordshire.



Herts 1 at their medal presentation ceremony (one player unfortunately unable to attend)

I would like to thank Hitesh Shah and Mike Newlove for managing the two Herts teams and Barbara Lewczynska for contributing both organisation skill and tournament management experience in working with me to run the tournament.

Teams

Herts 1: Beth Adams, Claudia Crowther, Zach Daniels, Brendan Ho, Jack Kimber, April Miller, Esme Stevens, Nathan Wooster

Herts 2: Mark Amer, Laura Anderson, Max Ansell, Olivia Birch, Monique Maisey, Sanaya Patel, Sebastian Plunkett, Max Titterton

Hatfield Bronze Festival, Monday 18 – Friday 22 February

On the Line!'s correspondents were despatched to each day of this exciting tournament, and their reports follow. (It should be noted that unfortunately the Under 15 girls' event had to be cancelled for lack of entrants.)

Monday 18 February, Under 13 Boys

Matthew Harden

In the Singles 11 of the 30 players who had entered were from Hertfordshire. There were many close fought contests but no Hertfordshire players managed to get out of their box. The players just missing out were: Rhys Clarke (who had the eventual winner, Levi Hoang from Suffolk, in his box) Ashay Dhingra, Daniel Lewis and myself. Alex Peat, Callum Latter, Jack Glynn, Lucas Siu, Sam Jarman and Sonny Ward also played good games with everyone showing a good fighting spirit, lots of determination and exemplary sportsmanship. I have to say that the winner, Levi Hoang, was a class apart and only dropped a maximum of 8 points in any match.

In the Doubles 6 of the 10 pairs contained Hertfordshire players, and this was the event in which we achieved most. In the first group Rhys Clarke (partnered by Adam Hu from Kent) came second. They were leading 19-12 in the deciding match before agonisingly losing 20-21. In the second group Daniel Lewis (partnered by Joseph Li from Surrey) were also second losing out to the all Hertfordshire pairing of Alex Peat and myself who won through to the final. In the final Alex and myself, spurred on by the partisan crowd, got revenge for Rhys and soundly beat Evan Blake and Harry Hodges 21-7. Sadly there was no third place play-off.

I hope that the following days of the Festival were just as exciting with some top quality badminton for the spectators to watch. Congratulations to everyone who took part in the event which was extremely well managed by the Widdicombes (several other organisers could learn a thing or two here) and they deserve a big thank-you for their efforts.

Tuesday 19 February, Under 13 Girls

Harriet Bell

Six Hertfordshire girls braved the early morning and freezing temperatures to take part in this event.

The day started well with first round wins in the singles for Monique Maisey and Laura Anderson. A great effort saw Monique go on to win all the games in her box but unfortunately lose 21-13 in the quarter finals. Against some strong opposition, the other Herts girls improved throughout the tournament, with Laura and myself eventually finishing second in our boxes and Molly Goode third in hers. Fiona McArdle and Sanaya Patel were given tough draws but both fought hard and had some good results.

In the doubles event which followed, there were some really close games but unfortunately luck was not on our side. All the boxes were tough and no one from Herts managed to make it through to the knock-out stages. However, special mention goes to Laura and Monique who came second in their group by just one point, losing 21-20 to the Sussex pair who went on to win the event. Molly and myself, Sanaya with her partner from Buckinghamshire and Fiona with her partner from Cambridgeshire all had tough games but came away with a few wins and some great experience.

All who took part had an enjoyable day and there was some entertaining badminton for the spectators. Many thanks to all those who came to offer their support and to the organisers for a great event.

Tuesday 19 February, Under 17 Girls

Libby Jennings

Of the 20 girls in this event at the Hatfield Festival, five were from Herts although just one, Keya Patani who is still an U13, got beyond the group stage. Keya beat Roxy Ciocan (Bucks) in the quarter-final to join three Surrey girls in the semis. One of the semis, Charlotte Clark v Grace Li was very close with Charlotte squeaking through 22-20. Keya had a more comfortable win over Pascale Pumphrey 21-10. The final however was a comfortable win for Charlotte beating Keya 21-7 with an impressive show of strength and speed.

Two boxes made up the girls doubles. Charlotte Clark went through to the final again with partner Olivia Trevor where they met Kirsty Binstead and Emily Parmenter the winners of the other box. It was Charlotte's day as she and Olivia won 21-16.

Wednesday 20 February, Under 17 Boys

William Pickworth

46 boys from 13 counties arrived at the recently refurbished Birchwood badminton hall in anticipation of this tournament. The hall was in great shape, although initially rather Siberian-like, and the day flowed smoothly, being expertly organised by the Widdicombe family.

There was an impressive number of Hertfordshire players, 13 in total (Wesley Chan, Sam Newlove, Daniel Fox, Jack Goode, Chris Adey, William Hickey, Edgar Titterton, , Harry Knill-Jones, Duncan Williams, Brett Maisey, Aaron Miller, Sajan Rajani and me), representing County squads from the U13s to U17s

The singles competition comprised 11 boxes. On the whole it was a positive day for Hertfordshire, with the majority of us winning at least one game. Duncan Williams was the most successful Herts player being the only one to progress from his box. However, a special mention to Chris Adey, who as an U13 performed admirably, nearly qualifying from his box. Duncan was unlucky in his first knockout game in that he was one of the few who won his box not to get a bye into the quarter-finals. However, this didn't faze Duncan, who beat Christopher Wood from Essex in a close game 21-19. He then beat William Manners from Surrey 21-14 in the quarter-final. These two tough games may have taken their toll on Duncan as sadly he then lost to the eventual winner Henry Skinner from Kent 21-14 in the semi-final. This was a great effort from Duncan who led by example for the Herts players. In the other Semi-Final, Ethan James Sinclair from Bedfordshire beat Thomas Boardman from Norfolk 21-17, before losing 21-17 to Henry Skinner in a tense and exciting final.

In the doubles competition, there were 14 pairs across three boxes, with four Herts pairs: Hickey/Miller, who unfortunately lost all of their games and Adey/Newlove who, although they played well together with great spirit and fight, also lost all of their games. Duncan, fresh from his exploits in the singles, partnered Daniel Fox and they came second in their group on points difference. Finally, my partner and I, Jack Goode, lost 21-18 in our final group game after winning our first three games; if we had won, we would've had a bye to the final, which was frustrating. In the end, the final was contested between Hudson/Ryland-Langley from Berkshire and Davis/Manners from Surrey. The Surrey pair won 21-12.

The tournament was a great success, with some good badminton played and I would like to thank the organisers for the great job that they did.

Friday 22 February, Under 15 Boys

Brett Maisey

This event saw 53 boys enter from 11 counties. A total of 18 Herts players competed in 14 boxes of mainly groups of 4 but 3 groups of 3 because of last minute drop outs, who played to 30 points instead of 21.

I personally was a bit worried going into the tournament with a slightly twisted ankle that was recovering from the U17 tournament that I entered two days earlier. However, I had a great day and was very pleased to win my box. My friend Christopher Adey from the U13 who is a brilliant singles player also managed to win his box. Sadly I lost my next game to Tom Barton Clapp 21-13; Chris got through to the semi-final but unfortunately lost to Chris Lai 21-14 who went on to win the tournament, playing a great final match against Terence Ng which could have quite easily gone either way but Chris snatching it at the end 22-20.

Sam Newlove, Sean McKnight, Jack Kimber, James Jarmen and Brendon Ho are just some of the boys from Herts who won games in there boxes. All the Herts players had great games. Some of us Herts boys had very tough boxes, which was just the luck of the draw on the day.

In the doubles I partnered Harry-Knill-Jones, but as it was our first time playing together and he is a left handed player, we were still getting used to playing with each other. We lost the first two games in our boxes 21-19 and 21-20 but then won our third game 21-15. There was only one pair from Herts who got out of their box: Christopher Adey and James Penver from the U13's squad. They were then unfortunately knocked out in the next round.

Everyone had a great day and spectators were able to watch lots of very high quality badminton. I'd like to say a big thank you to the competitors and to staff who helped to organise the event.

Under 11 quadrangular match

Sangeeta Dhall

The development squad played a quad match on 17 February at Birchwood leisure centre against teams from Buckinghamshire, Surrey and Berkshire. For most of the Herts players, this was their first experience of competitive badminton at inter-County level. Everyone played hard and gained some very encouraging results. The final positions were: 1st Buckinghamshire, 2nd Surrey, 3rd Herts, 4th Berkshire.

The Herts team was:

- Girls: Lilly Corke , Laura de Costa, Jess Gray, Khadijah Hassan, Fiona McArdle, Symran Shah
- Boys: Taroun Balasubramanion, Finlay Cattermole, Thomas Searle, Max Shirvell, Toby Shirvell, Lucas Siu, Alex Smith



Competitors at the Under 11 quadrangular match

With all league fixtures completed, the results for the age-group squads are:

Under 13		Under 15		Under 17	
Kent	19-1	Bedfordshire	12-8	Bedfordshire	17-3
Essex	10-10	Essex	6-14	Kent	18-2
Surrey	7-13	Cambridgeshire	14-6	Middlesex	20-0
Berkshire	20-0	Middlesex	10-10	Buckinghamshire	7-13
Suffolk	19-1	Sussex	18-2	Northamptonshire	19-1
Bedfordshire	19-1	Buckinghamshire 2	11-9	Cambridgeshire	19-1

Following these results, the Under 13's finished in 7th position in their league and face a play-off against Suffolk on 28 April for a place in the national finals, the Under 15's finished 11th, but unfortunately lost their play-off against Derbyshire by 4-16 and the Under 17's finished 5th and were due to play off against Nottinghamshire. However, this match has been conceded by the opponents, leaving the Herts team with a place in the national finals which will be held at the Hertfordshire Sports Village on 5 May.

HSBA Age-group tournaments, Spring term 2012/13

Barbara Lewczynska

Under 10 Singles, Under 13 singles, Under 13 doubles, 27 January

There were eighteen entrants in the Under 10 boys' singles, giving four boxes. In the main event the matches went very much according to seeding leading to a tense, hushed final where Harry Goode stole the show in a 21-15 showdown against Toby Goddard (Alex Smith and Thomas Reynolds were semi-finalists). In the Plate event Southill's Thomas Sweetenham beat Swifts club member Arin Hatrell 21-18; the semi-finalists being Joshua Lim and Harry Searle.

Unfortunately the girls' Under 10 event only had three entrants, and one didn't turn up so Elizabeth Bratton from Harpenden JBC was the winner after beating Rebecca Tweena from Norton St Nicholas 21-14. This shows that we definitely need more girls to be playing badminton, so if any readers have siblings, cousins, friends etc, encourage them to get to the nearest junior badminton club!!!!!!

The Under 13 singles saw some fantastic play amongst the youngsters, real nail-biting stuff, especially in the group stages. Again the boys' event went very much according to seedings, with Christopher Adey eventually crowned champion after a victory over James Penver. In the Plate event Jacob Harper came out tops ahead of Chancellor's Sonny Ward 21-14. In the girls' competition, with two groups of three and one of four, Laura Anderson of Parmiters beat county team mate Monique Maisey from Monks Walk in the final, with Beth Adams and Eleanor McArdle as semi-finalists.

The boys' doubles was a fairly easy ride for Christopher Adey and James Penver all the way to the final where they beat Jamie Gall and Benjamin Plunkett. So Christopher made it the double, and James made up for his loss in the singles final. The partnerships of Brendan Ho/Jack Kimber and Luke Meehan/Rees Clarke were worthy semi-finalists. In the Plate event, Toby Goddard made up for his loss in the Under 10 singles final earlier in the day by partnering Ashay Dhingra to gold, beating Stephen Elliot and Daniel Lewis in the final.

The girls' doubles followed very much the same pattern as the boys' events; Laura Anderson achieving the double with Monique Maisey, by beating Molly Goode and Harriet Bell in the final. The plate event was dominated by a large contingent from Queenswood. Jessica Hawes and Kyra Lilley had a nail-biting win over school friends Lia DiGesaro and Mia Fuell.

Under 11 Singles, Under 15 Doubles, Giant Handicapped Mixed Doubles, 10 February

An excellent entry for the boys' singles event, showing that badminton is alive and well in Hertfordshire!! The four boys who fought all the way to the last four positions in the main event were Bridgewater Middle School's Cameron Banister, Little Heath's Ashay Dhingra, Sacred Heart's Toby Goddard and Tewin Cowper's Harry Goode. Congratulations must go to Cameron Banister who made a semi-final amongst a strong County Squad contingent, and who gave Ashay Dhingra a run for his money!!! In the final, a thrilling 21-20 cliffhanger, Ashay pipped Toby at the last hurdle. In the Plate event George Mangan from Lochinver gave us another thrilling 21-20 scoreline against Cuffley School's Eyshan Carpenter.

The girls' singles event, played in round-robin format, was a friendly affair, with the final positions as follows

- 1st Fiona McArdle (High Beeches)
- 2nd Laura De Costa (Bushey Manor)
- 3rd Jessica Grey (Abel Smith)
- 4th Lillie Corke (Ladbroke)
- 5th Alice Winzer (Norton St Nicholas)
- 6th Chloe Connolly (Ashwell)

The Under 15 girls' doubles event had 11 paired entries, with once again a fantastic turnout from Queenswood and St Albans schools as well as County squad members. The main event was won by the last-minute pairing of Monique Maisey and Lia Willis over Claudia Crowther and April Miller 21-16, with the semi-finalists being Beth Adams/Emily Clarke and Victoria Clayton/Sophie Vernon. The Plate event final, an all Queenswood affair was won by Tammy Chinkulkitniwat and Smile Watcherporn over Grace Cornell and Seren Mehmet.

The Under 15 boys' doubles, with 17 pairs, was won in some style by Karlii Leung/Sam Newlove, in a thrilling final against Rees Clarke and Zach Daniels, with the plate event, again another close final, won by Romin Varia and Freddie Clarke over Shaun McKnight and Max Titterton.

The handicapped mixed doubles event, a first for HSBA, was a great success which I hope will be built upon in seasons to come. Each player was given a handicap according to their year of birth; the older the combination the higher the handicap. I would like to thank Liz Bateman at this juncture who very ably sorted out the handicap points and got all the pairs on court very successfully as if she had been doing it all her life – she certainly seemed to be more on the ball than I actually was.

This format meant we were able to have brother and sister combinations, of which we seem to be quite strong in Herts, so we had the Bambrick's, the Miller's, the Maisey's, and the McKeever's. I could see quite a few concerned looks from parents among the spectators hoping there would not be World War Three breaking out on court due to sibling rivalry, but they needn't have worried. There was also a strong contingent from Gadebridge JBC, who all seemed to be having a whale of a time.

Well done to Jack Glynn and Sanaya Patel, our youngest pairing, who played in such good spirit. Spread the word next year so we will have more representatives from the younger age groups.

An outstanding win for Conor and Cayleigh Bambrick in the main event ending an amazing season for this brother and sister combo. Both Cayleigh and Conor have won this season's singles and doubles crown, giving them both the hat trick. This is also Conor's last season in HSBA closed tournaments, and I shall personally miss his cheeky comments and the food he supplies me with at the table. Conor has set an amazing standard for the county boys, and he has regularly represented Herts in the Senior Premier A Team this season. The runners up in the final were Brett and Monique Maisey, and the semi-finalists were Nathan Wooster/Victoria Clayton and Francesca Farlie/Jonathan De Costa. In the Plate event Gadebridge's Dominic Hammond and Ellie Martell won in a walkover due to injury to Katie Waller and her partner Benedict Holzman.

Primary Schools Team Tournament, 3 March

The Primary Schools Team Tournament was once again a superb success. Many thanks to the wonderful coaches who ran the coaching session for the first hour and a half: Dick Large, Ben Chai, Hazel Levins, Gill Bartlett, John Stobo, Ken Winchester, Dave Bartlett and Doug Clarke, and also thank you to the coaches, teachers and parents who were involved.

There were 29 teams representing 13 schools this year, just under 100 players took part and what a fantastic display of Badminton we saw. It was very noisy, but it was great to see so many children enjoying their badminton. Each school team started in a box of four or five, for a first round, and then were regrouped for a second round. The mixed Team result was calculated by using the rankings for both a schools Boys and Girls Team.

The final results were as follows

Position	Boys Team	Girls Team	Mixed team
1st	Little Heath A	Bushey Manor	Sacred Heart
2nd	Tewin Cowper	Ladbroke A	Bushey Manor
3rd	Sacred Heart	Norton St Nicholas	Ladbroke A
4th	Little Heath B	Sacred Heart A	St John the Baptist
5th	Whitehill	St Andrews	Norton St Nicholas
6th	Lochinver	St John the Baptist	= Ladbroke B
7th	Fleetville A	Ladbroke B	= Ladbroke C
8th	Bushey Manor	Ladbroke C	Our Lady WGC
9th	St John the Baptist A	Our Lady WGC	
10th	Ladbroke A	Sacred Heart B	
11th	Little Heath C		
12th	St John the Baptist B		
13th	Fleetville C		
14th	Ladbroke C		
15th	Ladbroke B		
16th	Fleetville B		
17th	Norton St Nicholas		
18th	Much Hadhan JBC (Invitation Team)		
19th	Our Lady WGC		

Editor's note: Owing to some technical difficulties with the Tournament Software web-site, a report on the boys' and girls' singles event on 3 March is not yet available. We hope to report on this event in July's On the Line!

Badminton England grading promotions

Congratulations to the following squad players who have improved on their highest singles grading since Badminton England's grading list of July 2012:

February 2013

Grade F Chris Adey

Grade H Shaun McKnight, Ben Plunkett

Congratulations to the following squad players who achieved their first grading in the February 2013 list:

Grade H Ashay Dhingra

Grade I Steven Elliott, Fiona McArdle

Congratulations to James Penver who achieved outstanding success at this year's Margaret Tipton Under 12 tournament in Berkshire. In winning the Boys' singles event at this long-running and popular tournament, James joins such well-known winners from past years as Rajiv Ouseph, now England No. 1, Olympian and world top-40 player, and Rhys Walker, still an Under 19 player but already ranked 7th in England. To round off a splendid day's competition, James also won the Boys' doubles title with partner Alex Moffat. James is in good company among the previous winners of this tournament, and we wish him well for his future in the sport.

Badminton England junior tournament results

When HSBA squad members reach the knock-out stage of events played initially in boxes or the quarter finals of events played in straight knock-out format or a medal position in an event played in round robin format, On the Line! will report their achievements.

English National Championship, Under 13

BS	Round 2	Christopher Adey lost to Ethan van Leeuwen: 19-21, 21-15, 11-21
BD	Quarter final	Christopher Adey & Brodie Mcguire lost to Joshlee Bong & Jack Macgregor: 19-21, 14-21
XD	Quarter final	James Penver & Dominique Bell lost to Luke Doengan & Grace King: 18-21, 9-21
GS	Quarter final	Keya Patani lost to Helen Kelly: 21-19, 12-21, 12-21
GD	Final	Keya Patani & Molly Chapman won the event!!

English National Championship, Under 15

GS	Round 2	Lia Willis lost to Samodani Wijetunge: 7-21, 10-21
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English National Championship, Under 17

BS	Round 2	Matthew Widdicombe lost to David King: 12-21, 8-21
XD	Semi final	Matthew Widdicombe & Paige Butler lost to Sean Vendy & Jessica Pugh: 21-19, 14-21, 13-21
BD	Final	Matthew Widdicombe & Angus Pedersen won the event!!

Under 17 Gold, Cheltenham

XD	Quarter-final	Matthew Widdicombe & Paige Butler lost to Ben Lane & Brodie Miller: 16-21, 21-19, 23-25
BD	Quarter-final	Matthew Widdicombe & Angus Pedersen lost to Jed Arksey & Harrison Simcock: 22-24, 12-21

Under 13 Gold, Milton Keynes

BS	Semi-final	Christopher Adey lost to Oliver Chapman: 21-11, 18-21, 19-21
GD	Semi-final	Keya Patani & Molly Chapman lost to Line Christopherson & Emilie Melgaard: 15-21, 12-21

Under 17 Silver, Bedfordshire

BD	Final	Hugo Weaver & Timothy Scott won the event!!
BD	Semi-final	Cayleigh Bambrick & Anisha De Silva lost to Sophie Arrighi & Kelly Saunders: 11-15, 10-15

Under 15 Silver, Suffolk

BD	Final	Christopher Adey & Thomas Allen lost to Daniel Hatton & Jonathan Kuribayashi-Coleman: 2-15, 8-15
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Under 17 Bronze, Gloucestershire

BS	Round 2	Edgar Titterton lost to Tom Crisp: 16-21
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Under 17 Bronze, Tees Valley

XD	Final	David Maughan & Anuparma Karn won the event!!
BD	Final	David Maughan & Finn Connor-Watson won the event!!

Under 17 Bronze, Suffolk

BS	Semi-final	Duncan Williams lost to Tom Owen: 16-21
BD	Final	Duncan Williams & Daniel Fox lost to Tom Owen & Taylor Ringer: 21-23

Under 17 Bronze, Kent

GD	Final	Keya Patani & Alice Xu lost to Sophie Kelly & Emily Mills: 13-21
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Under 17 Bronze, Hampshire

BD	Semi-final	Duncan Williams & Daniel Fox lost to Connor Cummings & Joshua Ryland Langley: 14-21
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Under 15 Bronze, Hatfield

BS	Round 2	Brett Maisey lost to Tom Barton-Clapp: 13-21
	Semi-final	Christopher Adey lost to Christopher Lai: 14-21
BD	Semi-final	James Penver & Christopher Adey lost to Gaurav Kapoor & Timmy Nash: 10-21

Under 13 Bronze, South-East Essex

GD	Final	Keya Patani & Milie Limrick lost to Emily Jane Easton & Hannah Spring: 22-24
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Under 13 Bronze, Nottingham

BS	Round 2	James Penver lost to Anthony Walker: 18-21
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Under 13 Bronze, Middlesex

BS	Semi-final	Christopher Adey lost to Ryan Harman: 23-25
GS	Final	Keya Patani won the event!!
BD	Final	Christopher Adey & Pranav Santhosh won the event!!

Under 13 Bronze, Surrey

BS	Round 2	Jamie Gall lost to Jamie May: 17-21
BD	Final	Jamie Gall & Benjamin Plunkett lost to Joseph Li & Nicholas Pipe: 10-21

Under 13 Bronze, Essex

GS	Semi-final	Laura Anderson lost to Lydia Ip: 15-21
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Under 13 Bronze, Hatfield

GS	Quarter-final	Monique Maisey lost to Pamela Reyes: 13-21
BD	Final	Matthew Harden & Alex Peat won the event!!

Under 11, Home Counties

BS	Quarter-final	Ashay Dhingra lost to Harry Williams: 7-11, 11-8, 9-11
BD	Final	Lucas Siu & Dhanush Thiagaraj lost to Itmal Al Jamal & Nathan Moore: 6-11, 6-11

BS = Boys Singles BS* = Boys Singles Gold Star BSx = Boys Singles Extra BD = Boys doubles
 GS = Girls Singles GSx = Girls Singles Extra GD = Girls Doubles MX = Mixed Doubles

Thanks to everyone who contributed to this edition of On the Line! The deadline for contributions to the July 2013 newsletter is Friday 28 June, and they should be sent to John Stobo at:

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