# HERTFORDSHIRE SCHOOLS BADMINTON ASSOCIATION

# **NEWSLETTER**

# Printed by courtesy of the Headteacher of Ladbrooke JMI School

#### December 2005

#### H.S.B.A. Tournaments 2005/2006

The next tournament is the Mixed Doubles at Hatfield Leisure Centre on Tuesday, December 20

U13s at 9.30 am U15s at twelve noon U18s at 2.30 pm

Closing date for these tournaments is <u>Saturday</u>, <u>December 10th</u>, so if you haven't already entered you need to get busy sorting out partners in the next few day.s.

#### Don't forget the next tournaments on January 29th

Year 8 and under	(U13)	Boys and Girls 'B' sin	9
Year 5 and under	(U10)	Boys and Girls Singles	
Year 10 and under		s and Girls 'A' Singles	2.00 pm
Year 5 and under		s and Girls Doubles	2.00 pm

<u>Closing date</u>: Thursday, January 19

# and on February 12th

Year 10 and under	(U15)	Boys and Girls Doubles	9.30 am
Year 6 and under	(U11)	Boys and Girls Singles	9.30 am

# Closing date: Thursday, February 2

Both these tournaments will be held at Stevenage Leisure Centre

Registration time for all tournaments: 15 minutes before start time

Entries to: Megan Lumb, 16 Strafford Gate, Potters Bar, Herts. EN6 1PN Tel: 01707 653812

As some people may have noticed, at the last tournaments in Stevenage, there were several notices up requesting help at HSBA tournaments. Help is very definitely needed if the tournaments are to continue, as the secretary is 'retiring' at the end of the season. Only one person has shown any interest so far, and he cannot be expected to do it all himself. There is quite a lot of paperwork to do both before and after tournaments, as well as the help that is needed on the day. A suggestion is that volunteers run a tournament for one age group, in conjunction with a central co-ordinator. Please contact any member of the committee if you are able to help.

# **H.S.B.A. TOURNAMENTS** (13th November)

# U15 Boys 'B' Singles

# **Chris Dennell (Dame Alice Owen School)**

The U15 'B' tournament started a bit late as the St Albans boys had the wrong time to start (organisers fault not theirs). This meant the players had to knock up before the games. After four and a half hours the group stages were over. There were a few shots of brilliance. The atmosphere was tense and electric. We then had lunch and watched the U13 doubles play. There were 16 boys in the plate event. After 2 tense elimination rounds were down to the final four in each competition. In the main event it was Oscar Lam versus me, and Josh Cooper versus Jake Sanders. The plate semi-finalists were Matthew Edwards versus Keir Parkash and Damian Redburn versus Richard Tan. Oscar beat me 15-14 (he'd already beaten my two friends Jonny Morris and Jack Calvert - all of us, including Oscar, from Swifts), and Josh beat Jake 15-4. In the plate Keir beat Matthew 15-10 and Richard beat Damien 15-8. So Oscar played Josh in the main event and Keir played Richard in the plate. Both were thrilling matches with Richard winning the plate 21-0 and Oscar winning the 'B' singles championship 21-13.

Results: Final Oscar Lam beat Josh Cooper 21-13

Semi-finalists were Chris Dennell and Jake Sanders

Plate Final Richard Tan beat Keir Parkash 21-0

# U15 Girls 'B' Singles

# Eleanor Golland (Chancellor's School)

I arrived bright and early in Stevenage on Sunday morning ready for a lovely few hours of badminton. I registered at the desk and headed for the bowls hall where my matches were to be played. As my friends would tell you, I am constantly eating so I opened up my lunch and started on my sandwiches! Everyone was knocking up and I went to join them. Soon after, the first matches (including mine) were called and everyone started getting excited. I met some nice girls in my box and as we were waiting to go on court we had a nice little chat about Christmas! The standard of players seemed higher than last year so I started getting a little nervous!

The tournament went on for another eight hours! I arrived at 9.15 am and didn't leave until 5.15 pm! It was worth it though as I reached the final of the main event but lost to a friendly girl called Sonali 23-21 (after setting). It was a good day - I met some lovely people and saw some very exciting matches.

Results: Final Sonali Patel beat Eleanor Golland 23-21

Semi-finalists were Marigold Keane and Lauren Smith-Squire

Plate Final Sami Ainsworth-Davis beat Rehana Shivji 21-5

# **U13 Girls Doubles**

# Claire Widdicombe (U13 Squad/Chauncy School)

the other half, Jade Webb/Heather Myers played Jo En Choi and me. Fortunately we On Sunday, 13th November, the under 13 girls doubles was held at Stevenage Leisure Centre. It was an early start and with the first frost of the winter, it was not a morning for getting up. However my brother, Matthew, had other ideas as he was playing at the same time in the boys doubles and I had no choice but to get up, have my breakfast and rush to the car. If you know my brother, you will understand what I mean!!

Over twenty pairs had entered the event and we were split into five boxes. After the group matches the top two pairs in each box progressed through to the knock-out stages and the other pairs to the plate.

The finalists of the plate were Katie Booth/Ellie Johnson against Ayomide Akin-Agunbiade/Anjali Karnani. Ayomide/Anjali went on to win.

The main event semi-finalists were Penny Elsom/Gemma Ford against Isabelle Sadler/Daniella Farsiani with Isabelle/Daniella winning to get through to the final. In made it into the final which was evenly contested with Isabelle/Daniella winning.

Daniella Farsiani/Isabelle Sadler beat Jo En Choi/Claire Results: Final

Widdicombe 21-15

Semi-finalists were Penny Elsom/Gemma Ford and Heather

Myers/Jade Webb

Plate Final Ayomide Akin-Agunbiade/Anjali Karnani beat Katie Booth/Ellie

Johnson 21-6

#### **U13 Boys Doubles** Ryan McCarthy (U13 Squad/Chancellor's School)

It was a freezing, cold Sunday morning and the day of the Under 13 boys doubles tournament. Despite it being 6 degrees, the temperature didn't freeze the excitement of the tournament.

The format of the tournament was 9 groups of 4 pairs and one group of only 3 pairs. The games were to 15 except for the first group which was to 21. The top two pairs in the group progressed to the main event and the bottom two went into the plate event.

A couple of rounds went by and as the packed Stevenage Leisure Centre became sparser, there were still the contestants for the quarter finals.

There were some hard matches including the quarter final between myself and Dan Regan against Mark Sadler and Max Hodgkinson. But we beat the young whipper-snappers 15-1. By only dropping one point in the whole of the tournament so far, going into the semi-finals we felt confident of winning against Alex Lee/Iain Robinson. Winning the match 15-1, Dan and I progressed through to the final against the winner of the other semi-final between Dan Hatt/Nick Barnett versus Elliott Miles/Andrei Donko.

Elliott/Andrei won that match, so the final was to be Dan and me against Elliott and Andrei. The final was a tight thriller of twist and turns in an overall good badminton match. But the match went down to the last point, and thanks to a miraculous come back, Elliott/Andrei stole it. A good day for badminton and it was well worth the entry fee!

A special thanks to Megan and Malcolm Lumb for organising the event for the very last time; also to Angela Blowers and Ken Winchester for making sure it ran smoothly and Chris Sadler and Nicholas Fraser who were in charge of the scoring.

Results: Final Andrei Donko/Elliott Miles beat Ryan McCarthy/Daniel Regan

21-19

Semi-finalists were Alex Lee/Iain Robinson and Nick Barnett/

Daniel Hatt

Plate Final Alex Stride/Jack Wallace beat Akhil Shah/Paras Shah 21-16

#### School and Club Affiliation

Roundwood Park School and Hitchin Junior Club have now affiliated to HSBA.

The leagues are as follows:

U12 Boys 'A'
U12 Boys 'B' Comets, Gazelles, SCOBE, Swifts

Hitchin, Kenilworth, Much Hadham, Stanstead Abbotts

U12 Girls Gazelles, Swifts

<u>U15 Boys</u> 'A' - Comets, SCOBE, Swifts

U15 Boys 'B' - Baldock, Gazelles, Much Hadham

U15 Girls U15 Medley Queenswood, SwiftsHitchin, Stanstead Abbotts, Swifts U18 Boys - Hitchin, Stanstead Abbotts, Swifts

Queenswood, SwiftsBaldock, SCOBE, Swifts U18 Girls <u>U18 Medley</u>

# **Under 13 Team Challenge**

# **Duncan Conway (U13 Team Manager)**

Once again we trekked out into Suffolk (just) to Mildenhall for the regional round of the Under 13 Team Challenge. This is the original national team competition for this age group and attracts the biggest entry. Normally, at this regional stage I am feeling confident unless illness or injury strikes, but it tends not to happen. However this time both had already happened together with family circumstances. In consequence four of my 8 selected players had already withdrawn. Further I had agreed that Emily Westwood should play for the Under 15s in their Team Challenge. So I had an inexperienced team, particularly in the girls. Clearly we couldn't beat Essex. But could we beat the others? I really didn't know.

Our first game was against Norfolk, who often produce teams that are close to the top in the region. This was borne out when, to my surprise, we lost both the opening two boys singles! However the rest of the team reacted very well and we won the remaining four games to win by 4-2. The second match was against Northamptonshire. The boys singles went our way this time. The position was complicated by illness for one of our girls, which meant that we had to concede one of the girls singles and lost the other. However both the doubles went our way by big margins to give us another 4-2 victory.

Our third match was against Suffolk who had a stronger team than usual, shown by the fact that they had drawn 3-3 with Essex, but lost on points. We had to concede one girls game due to the continuing illness. And the remaining singles all went to Suffolk as well. We pulled back to win both the doubles but lost 2-4. So it looked as though the only way through to the finals was to beat Essex. I shifted the team around one last time, but it was not to be. The players played superbly. Three of the games were very close – two went to Essex by 18-21 and 20-21, while we won the third by 21-18, but this was our only success. 1-5 to Essex! We had won two matches and lost two. No way through! But then the Referee asked me to check the tiebreak rules. Essex had won overall, but Norfolk, Suffolk and Herts had all won two matches. However Suffolk were clearly the best, winning 14 games. Herts and Norfolk both won 11. So, by beating Norfolk, we were placed third. Those close matches against Essex and Suffolk could have made the difference. Congratulations to the team - Andrei Donko, Daniel Hatt, Elliott Miles, Daniel Regan, Heather Myers, Isabelle Sadler, Kate Sellars and Jade Webb - who so nearly pulled it off despite losing so many players. They put everything in and I was proud of them.

#### **Match Results**

<u>U13 Shires League v Hampshire</u> - Herts lost to Hants 8-12. The team was: Andrei Donko, Ryan McCarthy, Elliott Miles, Daniel Regan, Jo En Choi, Isabelle Sadler, Emily Westwood and Claire Widdicombe

<u>U13 Triangular v Buckinghamshire and Sussex</u> - Herts beat Bucks 11-9; Herts beat Sussex 12-8. The team was: Ewan Berry, Nick Barnett, Daniel Hatt, Alex Lee, Jo En Choi, Heather Myers, Kate Sellars and Jade Webb

<u>U15 Shires League v Essex</u> - Herts lost to Essex 7-13. The team was: Akash Jhunjhunwala, Arjun Shah, Ben Vranjkovic, Richard Wilson, Kate Herring, Helena Lewczynska, Ying Yi Tee and Emily Westwood.

<u>U15 Shires League v Sussex</u> - Herts lost to Sussex 8-12. The team was: Tim Angus, Alex Regan, Arjun Shah, Ben Vranjkovic, Alice Bloomfield, Laura Bygrave, Kate Herring, Ying Yi Tee and Emily Westwood

<u>U15 Shires League v Surrey</u> - Herts drew with Surrey 10-10. The team was: Tim Angus, Akash Jhunjhunwala, Arjun Shah, Ben Vranjkovic, Richard Wilson, Alice Bloomfield, Laura Bygrave, Charlotte Gawley Green, Kate Herring and Ying Yi Tee

<u>U15 Team Challenge</u> - Herts beat Norfolk 4-3; Herts beat Bedfordshire 7-0; Herts beat Suffolk 7-0; Herts beat Northants 5-2; Herts lost to Essex 2-5. The team was: Akash Jhunjhunwala, Matthew McCloskey, Arjun Shah, Scott Williams, Laura Bygrave, Helena Lewczynska, Ying Yi Tee and Emily Westwood

<u>U17 Shires League v Hampshire</u> - Herts beat Hants 15-5. The team was: Kamran Haq, Victor Liew, James Reynolds, Nigel Tao, Laura Cousins, Helena Lewczynska, Emily Westwood and Charlotte Willis

<u>U17 Friendly Match v Buckinghamshire</u> - Herts beat Bucks 21-15. The team was Richard Billing, Hao Choi, Ben Goodson, Sam Grant, Adam Monk, Nikhil Shah, Bethany Harriss, Megan Kirbyshire, Angela Law, Jennifer Marshall, Rebecca Sellars and Gemma Sheldrake

#### **HSBA Tournaments** (November 27)

As I didn't actually get to Stevenage for the tournaments, I didn't manage to get any aspiring reporters to describe the day. From what I've heard, however, it all ran smoothly and proves that the tournament secretary doesn't have to be there every time as long as there are people who will help with the organisation. I'd like to say a big thank you to Malcolm and Shân who took over, particularly as Marion and Duncan were also missing for part of the day. Also a very big thank you to all those who helped in other ways - Paul Godin, Sharon Hardie, Chris Sadler (who also kept me sane at the previous tournament!!), Philip Gray, John Smith, Emily Crabb, Pauline Head and Debbie Bungey, as well as all the others who offered help and weren't needed. Also thanks to the older players for helping with scoring when necessary and the younger players for selling raffle tickets.

U11 Boys Doubles

Results: Final Gareth Lumb/Mark Sadler beat David Maughan/Matthew

Widdicombe 21-9

Semi-finalists were Lyall Daniels/Ben Spencer and Edward

Byrne/Paul Earle

Plate Final Sam Fitzell/Jaimon Patel beat Pares Maroo and James

Richardson 21-9

U11 Girls Doubles

Results: Final Lizzy Airey/Lexy Richards beat Amy George/Isabel Hatt

21-6

Semi-finalists were Katherine Head/Jessie Northen and

Chloe Bungey/Lucy Wheeler

Plate Final Shayna Godin/Piu Yi Tam beat Natalie Farsiani/Madeleine

Lewis 21-5

U18 Boys Singles

Results: Final James Reynolds beat Gregg Roantree 21-18

Semi-finalists were Stephen Barnard and Matthew Westwood

Plate Final Akash Jhunjhunwala beat Suraj Shah 21-6

U18 Girls Singles

Results: Final Helena Lewczynska beat Charlotte Willis 21-18

Semi-finalists were Emily Westwood and Carrie Leung

Plate Final Ceire Bhatti beat Nisha Karnani 21-8

U18 Boys Doubles

Results: Final James Reynolds/Gregg Roantree beat Oliver Crabb/Matthew

Westwood 21-13

Semi-finalists were Arjun Shah/Richard Wilson and

Dominic Gomar/Jonathan Miller

Plate Final Akash Jhunjhunwala/Ben Vranjkovic beat Josh Chan/Basil

Walpole 21-3

U18 Girls Doubles

Results: Final Helena Lewczynska/Emily Westwood beat Victoria

Stokes/Charlotte Willis 21-19

Semi-finalists were Lauren Crichton/Jennifer Marshall

and Angela Law/Rebecca Sellars

Plate Final Yeni Chan/Suety Kwan beat Nisha Karnani/Sonali Shah

21-19

#### **Tournament Results**

U17 Gold - Wigan

Girls Singles Semi-final Katie Comras lost to Sarah Walker (Ex) 4-11, 6-11

Laura Cousins lost to Gabby White (Yo) 8-11, 9-11

Girls Doubles Semi-final Laura Cousins/Karen Hird (Bu) lost to Samantha Ward

(Sy)/Gabby White (Yo) 11-15, 7-15

Final Katie Comras/Sarah Walker (Ex) beat Samantha Ward/

Gabby White 15-11, 3-15, 17-16

Boys Singles Quarter final Nigel Tao lost to Richard Morris (Yo) 14-17, 9-15

Kamran Haq lost to Chris Hotchen (GI) 15-12, 4-15, 7-15 Victor Liew lost to Arthur Cheung (Bu) 11-15, 6-15

Boys Doubles Semi-final Kamran Haq/Nigel Tao lost to Robert Adcock(Nm)/

Jamie Bonsels (Yo) 5-15, 10-15

Final Arthur Cheung (Bu)/Victor Liew lost to Robert Adcock/

Jamie Bonsels 10-15, 15-17

Mixed Doubles Quarter final Victor Liew/Laura Cousins lost to Jamie Bonsels (Yo)/

Karen Hird (Bu) 17-14, 11-15, 7-15

Arthur Cheung (Bu)/ Katie Comras beat Nigel Tao/Lynne

Dargie (Sco) 13-15, 15-3, 15-9

Semi-final Arthur Cheung (Bu)/Katie Comras beat Kamran Hag/

Lauren Allinson (Yo) 8-15, 15-9, 15-5

Final Arthur Cheung/Katie Comras lost to Robert Adcock (Nm)/

Gabby White (Yo) 0-15, 10-15

<u>U17 Silver - Sussex</u>

Boys Doubles Semi-final Oliver Crabb/Matthew Westwood lost to Daryl Jacob

(Mx)/Sam Phillips (Sy) 5-15, 10-15

Stephen Barnard/Gregg Roantree lost to Paul Heads

(Bd) /James Buffham (Sy) 6-15, 13-15

U17 Bronze - Sussex

Boys Singles Semi-final Gregg Roantree lost to Jonathan Campbell (Ox) 13-21

U17 South East - Silver

Boys Doubles Quarter final James Reynolds/Ben Stawski (WI) lost to Joe Griffiths

(GI)/Callum Lawson (Ha) 5-15, 10-15

U17 South East - Bronze

Girls Singles Final Charlotte Willis beat Rebecca Greenstreet (Ke) 15-13

Girls Doubles Semi-final Rhian Blowers/Sarah Lewin (Nk) lost to Charlotte Lane/

Helen Wiley (Ex) 10-15

U13 Midlands - Bronze

Boys Singles Quarter final Elliott Miles lost to Philip Wilkinson (Bu) 12-15

Final Ryan McCarthy beat James Scott (Sk) 15-4

Girls Singles Quarter final Claire Widdicombe lost to Raveesha Fernando (St) 2-15

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U11 South-East - Silver

Boys Doubles Final Max Hodgkinson/Mark Sadler lost to Alex Lane (Do)/Sam

Parsons (Wk) 4-11

U11 Midlands

Boys Doubles Final Mark Sadler/Cameron Weber (Bk) lost to Alex Lane (Dv)/

Sam Parsons (Wk) 11-15

Girls Doubles Semi-final Amy George/Isabel Hatt lost to Chloe Birch/Natalie Chan-

Lam

From the editor: Thanks to Duncan Conway, Ryan McCarthy, Eleanor Golland, Chris Dennell and Claire Widdicombe for their articles. I would like to say that although I am not running the tournaments next season, I am still editing the newsletter. I don't know how many people actually read this newsletter, but if there are no articles sent in to edit, there will be no newsletter for them to read.

On a more cheerful note, I would like to wish everyone a very Happy Christmas and a peaceful and prosperous New Year.

Closing date for items for the next newsletter is Thursday, February 9.

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