

Eastern Counties Champion of Champions

Littleport Leisure Centre – Sunday 11th May 2025

This event sees the Hertfordshire County champions for each discipline play against the champions from the other eastern counties (Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Essex, Norfolk and Suffolk) on a round robin league basis to determine the Eastern Counties Champion of Champions. The team representing Hertfordshire in this event was as follows:

Singles

Pete Cook

Pairs

Jason Ellis
Jack Smalley

Triples

Carole Drury
Marilyn Cook
David Danby

Fours

Emma Thurley
Amy Missing
Simon Missing
Matt Thurley

Singles

Pete started with a match against Norfolk, he got off to a good start and was never behind but only led 8-7 playing the final end. He managed to secure two on the last end to take a 10-7 win.

Next up was a match with Bedfordshire. He made another good start and built an early lead. A poor middle part of the game saw him fall 9-3 behind with two ends to play. A two on the 8th end gave him a chance and a full house on the last end saw him grab a 9-9 draw from the jaws of defeat.

A similar story in his third game against Cambridgeshire. A decent start, followed by a poor middle part of the game and he trailed 9-7 playing the final end. He was only able to gain a single on the last end losing the match 9-8.

A win would be needed in the 4th game to retain any hope of winning the title. Another good start saw him build an early lead, the middle part of the game was better this time as he eased away to a 9-4 win.

Suffolk were the opponents in the final session, if Pete won and Norfolk lost their final game he would take the title. Pete led throughout and established a 7-3 lead playing the final end, where he controlled matters to ensure he didn't drop a full house taking a 7-6 win. The Bedfordshire player (Norfolk's opponent) had kept their match tight and managed to take two shots on the final end to win the game and hand Pete the title.

Team	Pts	SF	SA
Hertfordshire	7	43	35
Norfolk	6	47	35
Bedfordshire	6	36	40

Suffolk	5	29	34
Essex	4	35	37
Cambridgeshire	2	33	42

Pairs

Jason and Jack started their day with a commanding 13-4 win over Norfolk.

They followed that up in their second game with another convincing display, beating the Bedfordshire pair 11-5.

Cambridgeshire were their opponents in their 3rd game. They were made to work a little harder this time but led from start to finish as they eased away to an 8-4 win.

The 4th game against Essex was the crucial one of the day. Both teams had won their first three matches and the winner of this would have one had on the trophy. A close game was expected but that was not the case. Jack and Jason won end after end and eased away to a convincing 13-1 win.

That all but secured the title, with one game to play they held a two point and seventeen shot advantage over Essex.

The final game against Suffolk started perfectly as they picked up a four on the first end. Their opponents chipped away at that lead but could only reduce the arrears to 7-5 playing the final end. However, there was a sting in the tail as their opponents picked up three on the final end to take the game 8-7.

Team	Pts	SF	SA
Hertfordshire	8	52	22
Cambridgeshire	7	46	34
Suffolk	6	41	32
Essex	6	35	36
Norfolk	3	27	47
Bedfordshire	0	26	56

Triples

Our triples started their campaign against Norfolk. A close game but they just come down on the wrong side of it as they lost 7-6.

Bedfordshire were their opponents in the second round of games. Again, the game was close, and they kept in it right up to the final end. They eventually succumbed to an 8-4 loss.

Another tight low scoring affair in their 3rd match against Cambridgeshire. Once again, they just come up a little short as they fell to a 6-5 loss.

Essex were the opponents in their 4th game. Our team got off to a strong start, built an early lead, they controlled the game thereafter and ended with a good 10-7 win.

A tough final fixture for our triple as they were playing Suffolk who had won their first four games and already secured the title. They again competed well and kept within touching distance throughout but could never quite get close enough to take anything from the game as they lost 8-3.

Team	Pts	SF	SA
Suffolk	10	46	26
Essex	6	48	30
Norfolk	5	37	34
Bedfordshire	4	25	45
Cambridgeshire	3	30	43
Hertfordshire	2	28	36

Fours

Our fours team were involved in a tight game with Norfolk to start off proceedings. They were behind early on, got into their stride in the middle-later part of the game and eventually secured a 9-6 win.

They were impressive in their second game against Bedfordshire as they completely controlled the game and come away with an impressive 13-0 win.

They looked like they had met their match in the 3rd game against Cambridgeshire. 10-2 behind and struggling, they picked up a six on the 7th end to get them back into the game at 10-8. They managed to secure singles on the final two ends to secure an unlikely 10-10 draw.

Essex were the opposition for their penultimate game. A tight low scoring game throughout. Our team just did enough to secure a second consecutive draw as the game finished 6-6.

Final opponents were Suffolk. They had also secured six points from their first four matches, and this was setup for a winner takes all clash. Our team never really gave them much of a look in as they eased there was to a 14-2 win to take the title.

Team	Pts	SF	SA
Hertfordshire	8	52	24
Essex	7	45	22
Suffolk	6	33	39
Bedfordshire	5	39	42
Cambridgeshire	4	41	43
Norfolk	0	20	60

Team

After the first two rounds of matches we had established a narrow lead at the top. We had 11 points one clear of Suffolk in second.

A poor 3rd session for us against Cambridgeshire saw us pick up just three of the eight available points. That dropped us down to 3rd place on 14 points. Suffolk led on 17, with Essex a point behind on 16.

Securing seven of the eight available points against Essex in the 4th session put them out of contention and narrow the gap to Suffolk to just two points. We had 21, Suffolk led on 23.

Suffolk would be our opponents in the final session. We would need to secure five of the eight points on offer to take the team title as we held a significant shot advantage. We split the triples (losing) and fours (winning). This meant we needed a win and a draw from the singles and pairs to take the team title. Pete won in the singles. Unfortunately, Jason and Jack narrowly lost in the pairs, meaning Suffolk took the team title by two points.

Team	Pts	SF	SA
Suffolk	27	149	131
Hertfordshire	25	175	117
Essex	23	163	125
Cambridgeshire	16	150	162
Bedfordshire	15	126	183
Norfolk	14	131	176