

## Team Bowl

### Littleport Leisure Centre – Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> October 2024

The first county fixture of the season was the Team Bowl held at Littleport Leisure Centre. The team chosen to represent us was as follows;

#### *Singles*

<b>H1</b>	<b>H2</b>	<b>H3</b>	<b>H4</b>
Paul Harris	Thomas Ellis	Jack Smalley	Matt Thurley

#### *Pairs*

<b>H1</b>	<b>H2</b>	<b>H3</b>	<b>H4</b>
Ron Hart Craig Hearn	Mick Cook Pete Cook	Emma Thurley Rebecca Hearn	Lisa Edmead Neil Tuckey

#### *Triples*

<b>H1</b>	<b>H2</b>	<b>H3</b>	<b>H4</b>
Chris Boakes Andy Cobbold Marilyn Cook	Gary Young Simon Missing Jason Ellis	Jo Hilson Gill Barraclough David Danby	Mike Bennett Jacqui Harris Ollie Mercer-Smith

### **Session 1**

A tough opening match against the defending champions Suffolk. An overall session win would be needed if we harboured any aspirations of winning the event.

#### *Singles*

A tough opening start for our singles players as they were only able to secure one victory, a 7-4 victory (H3). The other three games were lost by scores of 2-10 (H2), 2-6 (H1) and 3-6 (H4).

#### *Pairs*

Our pairs players only fared a little better as they split the session with two wins and two losses. The two victories come by the narrowest of margins with scores of 6-5 (H1) and 8-7 (H4). H3 were also involved in a tight game as they fell to a 9-10 defeat. The margin of loss for H2 was a little larger as they were beaten 4-9.

### *Triples*

Our triples would realistically need to win at least three of the four triples' games to avoid falling too far behind Suffolk early on. H1 were involved in a tight low scoring game but just come out on the wrong end of it 3-5. Unfortunately, our other three teams never really got into their games. They were all beaten comfortable by scores of 2-7 (H2), 7-14 (H3) and 0-13 (H4).

**Session Score**  
**Herts 6-18 Suffolk**

**Total Points**  
**6**

### **Session 2**

Norfolk would be our opponents in the second session, and we would need a good reaction to make up points.

### *Singles*

A fantastic session from our singles players as they took a clean sweep of four wins. Two of those wins were comfortable, by scores of 14-1 (H2) and 12-2 (H3). The other two games were a little closer, 7-5 (H1) and 8-3 (H4).

### *Pairs*

Our pairs teams were not able to match the performance of the singles, but they were able to manage to secure three wins. Those wins come from H2, H3 and H4 by scores of 14-1, 12-4 and 7-3 respectively. The one loss come from H1 who lost a tight game 4-5.

### *Triples*

All our triples were looking to bounce back from their first session losses. Unfortunately, H2 and H4 suffered another loss by scores of 5-6 and 2-6. H1 battled hard to secure a 4-4 draw. H3 secured a comfortable 12-3 win.

**Session Score**  
**Herts 17-7 Norfolk**

**Total Points**  
**23**

### **Session 3**

### *Singles*

Our singles were looking to carry on the momentum from the previous session against Bedfordshire. H1, H3 & H4 were all able to that, securing wins by margins of 6-5, 11-1 and 12-3 respectively. H2 were unable to make it a second successive clean sweep of wins as they fell to a 4-6 loss.

### *Pairs*

A very good session for our pairs' teams as they all secured victories. H1 and H2 were both involved in tight games, they managed to secure early leads which they were able to protect and with it come wins of 7-4 and 7-6. More comfortable victories for the other two teams as H3 eased away to a 10-1 win and H4 won 12-1, to make it three wins in a row.

### *Triples*

A split session for our triples as H1 (10-2) and H2 (8-3) both secured comfortable wins. H3 and H4 were unable to do the same as they suffered defeat by scores of 3-6 and 4-10.

**Session Score**  
**Herts 18–6 Bedfordshire**

**Total Points**  
**41**

### **Session 4**

### *Singles*

We had closed the gap to Suffolk to 9 points but would need to be near perfect for the rest of the day to catch them. Three wins out of four again for our singles players. The successes coming for H1 (5-4), H2 (7-3) and H4 (8-3). The one loss coming for H3 by a score of 2-6.

### *Pairs*

Another perfect session for our pairs who all secured victory. H4, winning their 4<sup>th</sup> straight game, secured a 7-4 win. An emphatic win for H3 as they eased away to a 15-2 win. A much closer game for H2 but they come away with a one-shot victory 7-6. Finally, H1 come through with an 8-4 win.

### *Triples*

Not such a good session for the triples, who could only win the one game. The highlight first, a brilliant 19-2 win for H2. However, with losses of 3-7 (H1), 5-8 (H3) and 1-9 (H4) we failed to make any ground up on Suffolk as they matched our 16-point haul from the session.

**Session Score**  
**Herts 16–8 Essex**

**Total Points**  
**57**

## Session 5

### *Singles*

The final session would see us play Cambridgeshire and Suffolk would face Norfolk. With a 9-point deficit to make up, we would need to secure as many points as possible and home that Suffolk had a major slip up. Our singles got us off to the perfect start with four wins. H1 won narrowly 5-4, H2 a little more comfortable 9-2, H3 coming through 8-4 and finally H4 winning 10-4.

A good day for all our singles players with H1, H3 and H4 winning four of their five games. H2 won three of their five matches, to give the singles players 30/40 points.

### *Pairs*

Mixed results for our pairs as two games were won and two were lost. H4 won their final game 6-3, the other victory coming from H1 8-3. The two losses for H2 and H3 come by scores of 3-11 and 6-8.

A great day for H4 who won all five of their games. H2 & H3 managed to secure three wins from their five matches. Finally, H1 lost just the one game to finish on eight points. Overall, our pairs secured the same number of points as our singles (30/40).

### *Triples*

A good final session for three of our four teams. H1 secured a narrow 6-5 win. H2 won a little more comfortably (9-2). H4 picked up their first points of the day with a good 8-3 win. H3 were not able to make it a clean sweep as they fell to a 5-7 loss.

Overall, H2 finished with three wins from their five games. H1 secured two wins and a draw. H3 and H4 both struggled a little as they won just the one game each. Overall, our triples secured 15/40 points.

**Session Score**  
**Herts 18-6 Cambridgeshire**

**Total Points**  
**75**

We trimmed the points deficit slightly in the last session but the matches against Suffolk at the start of the day proved to be decisive. We finished on 75 points, which is easily our best showing in this event. Our previous best being 62 points achieved in both 2016 and 2017.

The final standings are below, incredibly the Suffolk triples lost just one game all day, securing almost half the total points gained by Suffolk.

		Singles	Pairs	Triples	Total
1st	<b>Suffolk</b>	24	20	38	<b>82</b>
2nd	<b>Hertfordshire</b>	30	30	15	<b>75</b>
3rd	<b>Norfolk</b>	13	20	23	<b>56</b>
4th	<b>Essex</b>	22	16	17	<b>55</b>
5th	<b>Cambridgeshire</b>	16	24	13	<b>53</b>
6th	<b>Bedfordshire</b>	15	10	14	<b>39</b>

Hertfordshire Team by team performance are displayed below:

Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	SF	SA	Points
<b>Singles H1</b>	5	4	0	1	25	24	8
<b>Singles H2</b>	5	3	0	2	36	22	6
<b>Singles H3</b>	5	4	0	1	40	17	8
<b>Singles H4</b>	5	4	0	1	41	19	8
<b>Pairs H1</b>	5	4	0	1	33	21	8
<b>Pairs H2</b>	5	3	0	2	35	33	6
<b>Pairs H3</b>	5	3	0	2	52	25	6
<b>Pairs H4</b>	5	5	0	0	40	18	10
<b>Triples H1</b>	5	2	1	2	26	23	5
<b>Triples H2</b>	5	3	0	2	43	20	6
<b>Triples H3</b>	5	1	0	4	32	38	2
<b>Triples H4</b>	5	1	0	4	15	41	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>418</b>	<b>301</b>	<b>75</b>