
Men's and Women's Inter County Finals 28-29 April

Hallamshire Tennis & Squash Club

SATURDAY

MEN

Round One

Hertfordshire v Cheshire

Quite a surprise in this first round match, when one of the favourites for the title Hertfordshire lost to Cheshire. Sean Hunter got Cheshire off to a great start when he edged out Herts Captain Marc Woolhead 3-2, after being 2 down. First string Andy Whipp beat Chris Ryder 3-1 and Matt Lowery beat Adam Fuller 3-0 in the 3rd string match. Nick Mulvey salvaged some pride for Hertfordshire, beating Rob Taylor 3-1 at 4th string and newly crowned British Under 23 champion Adrian Waller beat Adam Murrills 3-0 in the 2nd string encounter

HERTFORDSHIRE 2 CHESHIRE 3

Devon v Nottinghamshire

Nottinghamshire got off to a winning start with wins 3-0 for Jonathan Underhill against Dave Palmer at 5th string and Mark Fuller at 2nd string v Mike Harris. The 3rd string match between Phil Whitlock and Declan James was a case of coach versus pupil, and Phil has obviously taught well as his charge beat him 3-1. The first string match was a classic encounter between James Snell and Eddie Charlton which lasted 60 minutes; 10/12 to Snell in game one, and 12/10 to Charlton in game 2. Two more tight games followed which took the match to five, with Snell taking it 11/8. In the dead rubber 4th string match Bristow from Devon beat Richard Underhill 3-0

DEVON 2 NOTTINGHAMSHIRE 3

Sussex v Oxfordshire

Tom Pashley got Sussex off to a good start when he beat Nelson Fong 3-0 at 3rd string. Captain Tim Vail put them further ahead when he beat Mark Cairns 3-0 at 2nd string. Scott Handley pulled one back for Oxon, when he beat Olly Pett 3-0 and then Will John squared the tie when he beat Ben Hutton 9/11 in the 5th game of a thrilling encounter at 5th string. The outcome of the tie rested on the 4th strings, Brandon Handley v Joe Brooke and Handley held his nerve to win 3-1; 12-10 in the 4th.

SUSSEX 3 OXFORDSHIRE 2

Surrey v Essex

Captain Neil Frankland got the holders off to a good start when he beat Jack Jago 3-1 in the 3rd string match. Essex leveled the tie when Ross Brown overcame Jamie Matthews 3-2 in a thrilling 54 minute encounter. 1st string Joe Lee put Surrey ahead when he beat Ben Coleman 3-1 in a long match lasting 72 minutes. James Simpson won the tie for Surrey when he beat Youseff Abdalla 3-1 at 4th string. In the dead rubber 2nd string match, both players looked to be conserving energy and Sharpes won easily; 3-0 in 38 minutes

SURREY 4 ESSEX 1

WOMEN

Round One

Yorkshire v Surrey

Yorkshire comfortably beat Surrey 5-0. 3-0 wins for Kirsty McPhee v Kim Graham, Fiona Moverley v Alison Thomson and Andrea Santa Maria v Isabelle Tweedle at strings 2, 3 and 5. Katie Smith beat Katie Wilson at 4th string. The 1st string battle between Deon Saffery went to the wire; with Saffery edging out Ingham 11/8 in the 5th.

YORKSHIRE 5 SURREY 0

Cheshire v Nottinghamshire

Cheshire set up a 2nd round match with Yorkshire as they also won comfortably against Nottinghamshire without dropping a game, it was 3-0 all the way with wins for Emily Whitlock v Rachel Pullen, Laura Mylotte v Hannah Covey, Rachel Chadwick v Alison Goy, Kirsty West v Rachel Rinkavage and Olivia Hall v Toni Marsland

CHESHIRE 5 NOTTINGHAMSHIRE 0

Northumbria v Lancashire

In a tight 5th string encounter, Karen Heron of Northumbria beat Vicky Grimshaw 11/3 in the 5th, but Lauren Tamila leveled the match winning 11/6 in the 5th against Emma Barnett. Lucy Beecroft put Northumbria ahead when she beat Mandy Warren 3-1. The close encounter of this tie continued when Jenny Wright playing at 1st string for Lancs, beat Sarah Bowles 3-1 to again level things up. In this tightest of encounters the deciding 2nd string rubber between Sam Ward and Helen De Los Rios couldn't have been closer with De Los Rios triumphing 10/12 in the 5th

NORTHUMBRIA 2 LANCASHIRE 3

Warwickshire v Middlesex

Holders Warwickshire got off to a great start with wins for Chloe Pearson (3-1) v Jo Brown at 3rd string and a 3-0 win for Emma Beddoes v Selina Sinclair at 1st string. British Under 23 Champion Sarah Jane Perry ensured victory when she beat Eva Feredoes 3-0. Rachel Woolford also won for

Warwickshire in a great 5th string tussle with Clare Richardson – 13/11 in the 5th. Jemma Holt wrapped up a 5-0 win when she beat Rosa Ruis 3-1 at 4th string

WARWICKSHIRE 5 MIDDLESEX 0

MEN

Round Two

Cheshire v Nottinghamshire

The winners of this match go through to the final and Notts got off to a flying start with Declan James beating Matt Lowery 3-0 at 3rd string. Sean Hunter pulled out another battling performance to level the tie when he beat Jonathan Underhill 17/15, 14/12, 11/13, 11/5 in 53 minutes. Cheshire went ahead when 4th string Rob Taylor beat Richard Underhill 3-1. 1st string Andrew Whipp took a delighted Cheshire through to the final when he overcame a battling Lewis Walters 11/9, 11/5, 3/11, 13/15, 11/8 in a match lasting just over the hour. In the dead rubber 2nd string match Adam Murrills beat Mark Fuller 3-0 in 54 minutes.

CHESHIRE 4 NOTTINGHAMSHIRE 1

Hertfordshire v Devon

The losers of this match will be relegated and pre tournament favourites Herts soon found themselves 2-0 down when Phil Whitlock beat Nick Mulvey 3-0 at 3rd string and Dave Palmer beat Charlie Johnson 3-1 at 5th string. Herts kept their premiership survival alive when Keith Timms beat Jim Bristow 3-0 at 4th string. However it looked dodgy for them when Chris Ryder went 2-0 down against James Snell at 1st string; but he came back strongly to win 3-2. Adrian Waller kept them up when he won 3-1 at 2nd string against Mike Harris.

HERTFORDSHIRE 3 DEVON 2

Sussex v Surrey

The winners of this south coast derby will go to the final and Sussex got the perfect start when 3rd string Tom Pashley beat Neil Frankland 3-1. Joe Lee leveled for Surrey, beating Olly Pett 3-0 in the first string match. Disaster for Sussex in the 5th string match when Ben Hutton's ankle gave way and he had to retire after only 5 points, giving the match to Jamie Matthews. James Simpson took the holders Surrey through to yet another final when he beat Brandon Handley 1/11, 13/11, 9/11, 4/11 in 42 minutes at 4th string. They then wrapped up a 4-1 victory when Charles Sharpes narrowly beat Tim Vail 11/9, 7/11, 11/9, 9/11, 6/11 in 50 minutes in the 2nd string match.

SURREY 4 SUSSEX 1

Oxfordshire v Essex

Whoever lost this match would be relegated, and it was all square after the 1st and 3rd string matches with Scott Handley (Oxon) trouncing Ben Coleman 3-0 and Jack Jago Essex beating Joe Brooke by the same margin. Youssef Abdalla put Essex 2-1 up beating Ross Gore 3-0 at 4th string, but Oxon again levelled when 5th string Will John beat Ross Brown 3-0. Mark Cairns rolled back the years and kept Oxfordshire up when he beat Neil Hitchens 11/6, 11/7, 11/4 in 43 minutes.

OXFORDSHIRE 3 ESSEX 2

WOMEN

Round Two

Yorkshire v Cheshire

The winners of this match would go through to the final and the early matches proved to be extremely tight. Olivia Howell beat Andrea Santa Maria 3-1 at 5th string to put Cheshire ahead.

Yorkshire's Fiona Moverley went 2-1 up against Rachel Chadwick, but eventually lost 3-2 in the 3rd string match, and in the 4th string match Kirsty West went 2 up but was pulled back to 2 all by Katie Smith, however Kirsty prevailed winning 11/6 in the 5th booking Cheshire's place in the final. Emily Whitlock made it 4-0 when she beat Dean Saffery 3-1 at 1st string. Kirsty McPhee was the only winner for Yorkshire beating Laura Mylotte 3-2 at 2nd string.

YORKSHIRE 1 CHESHIRE 4

Surrey v Notts

The losers of this match will be relegated and after the 4th and 5th string matches it was Surrey who were 2-0 up with Katie Smith beating Rachel Rinkavage 3-1 and Isabelle Tweedle beating Toni Marsden 3-0. Despite a battling performance by Notts captain Rachel Pullen against Harriet Ingham at 1st string, Notts were relegated when she lost 3-2. Young Alison Thomson won for Surrey at 3rd string beating Alison Goy 3-1. Hannah Covey was the only Notts winner when she beat Kim Graham at 3rd string.

SURREY 4 NOTTINGHAMSHIRE 1

Lancashire v Warwickshire

The winners of this tie will go to the final and Lancashire got off to a great start when 5th string Lauren Tamila beat Rachel Woolford 3-0, and went further ahead when 4th string Mandy Warren beat Jemma Holt by the same margin. Warwickshire pulled one back when Chloe Pearson easily overcame Jeannine Cowie 3-0 at 3rd string, and brought the match level when Emma Beddoes beat Jenny Wright 3-0, 5/11, 5/11, 1/11 at 1st string. Warwickshire then went on to tomorrow's final when Sarah Jane Perry beat Helen De Los Rios 3-0 in 23mins.

LANCASHIRE 2 WARWICKSHIRE 3

Northumbria v Middlesex

Whoever loses this match will be relegated and it looked bad for Middlesex when they went 2-0 down, Eva Feredoes and Jo Brown both losing 3-1 to Sam Ward and Lucy Beecroft at 2nd and 3rd strings respectively. Northumbria relegated Middlesex when Karen Heron beat Clare Richardson 3-2

at 5th string, Sarah Bowles then beat Selina Sinclair 3-1 at 1st string before Emma Barnett completed a 5-0 whitewash when she beat Rosa Ruis 3-2 at 4th string.

NORTHUMBRIA 5 MIDDLESEX 0

Men's and Women's Inter County Finals 28-29 April: Day 2 Hallamshire Tennis & Squash Club

SUNDAY

MEN

7/8 Play Off

Devon v Essex

Essex's 5th string Ross Brown got them off to a great start with a comfortable win over Dave Palmer in just 15 minutes, Devon's Phil Whitlock however responded levelling the tie 1-1 with a straightforward 3-0 victory over Jack Jago 11/6 11/7 11/4. It was all over though for Devon when Essex's 4th and 1st strings Youseff Abdalla and Ben Coleman cruised to victories over Jim Bristow and James Snell. The dead rubber match between the 2nd strings saw some pride restored for the Devon team with Mike Harris taking Neil Hitchens down in 3 games; 11/9, 11/8, 11/6.

DEVON 2 ESSEX 3

5/6 Play Off

Hertfordshire v Oxfordshire

Pre- tournament favourites Hertfordshire found themselves playing for 5/6 place against an equally strong Oxfordshire team. Will John kicked things off for Oxfordshire with a 3-0 victory over 5th string Charlie Johnson before Herts 3rd string Adam Fuller levelled things up with a 3-1 victory over Nelson Fung. 4th String Nick Mulvey then put Herts in the lead with a tight 3-2 victory over Ross Gore winning 18/16 in the 5th, the drama then continued with Herts gifting Oxfordshire hope when 1st string Chris Ryder retired in the 3rd. The current British U23 Squash Champion Adrian Waller then stepped on court for Herts taking the 1st game 11/6 against Mark Cairns, the victory was handed to the Hertfordshire team when Cairns pulled up and retired in the 2nd game.

HERTFORDSHIRE 3 OXFORDSHIRE 2

3/4 Play Off

Nottinghamshire v Sussex

Nottinghamshire were already a game up before the tie started with Sussex failing to produce a 5th string, due to yesterday's injury to Ben Hutton. Sussex not wanting to give anything else to the Notts team fought to level the match 1-1 when 3rd string Tom Pashley took a closely fought victory over Nott's Jonathon Underhill winning it in the 5th 4/11 in 42 minutes. Nottinghamshire came back however with 4th string Matthew Oxley and 1st string Lewis Walters giving victory to Notts with victories over Brandon Hanley and Oliver Pett. Sussex restored some order though taking the dead rubber in just 12 minutes with 2nd string Tim Vail beating Richard Underhill 11/3 11/8 11/8.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE 3 SUSSEX 2

FINAL

Cheshire v Surrey

Cheshire's men, perhaps surprise finalists took on 10times previous winners and current holders Surrey. Jamie Matthews got Surrey off to a great start with a tight win over Cheshire's 5th String

Mike Potter taking it 11/5 in the 5th in a match lasting 50 minutes. Neil Frankland then put Surrey in a commanding position when he beat 3rd string Rob Taylor 11/3 11/5 11/5. Cheshire's Sean Hunter and Andy Whipp looked to keep the tie alive for Cheshire when they stepped on court but Surrey's World number 65 Joe Lee dispatched Whipp in 3 games giving Surrey victory and despite having match ball in the 5th at 10/4 up, Sean Hunter eventually lost to surreys James Simpson of Surrey 13/11 in the 5th. World Number 88 Charles Sharpes put the icing on the cake beating Cheshire's Adam Murrills 3-0. Surrey not only retained their title, making it three in a row and also chalked up their 11th victory in 13 years – an outstanding achievement

CHESHIRE 0 SURREY 5

WOMEN

7/8 Play Off

Nottinghamshire v Middlesex

With a walkover at 5th string already in the bag Nottinghamshire went 2 matches up in the tie when Sue Pinnegar grabbed a 3-1 win over Middlesex's Clare Richardson at 4th string. Middlesex pulled one back though when 3rd string Rosa Ruis came from a game down to take the match 3-1. 1st string Selina Sinclair then pulled the tie to 2 matches all when she saw off Nottinghamshire's Hannah Govey 3-0. 2nd String Eva Feredoes then put the nail in Nottinghamshire's coffin with a 3-1 victory over Rachel Rinkavage in 20 minutes.

MIDDLESEX 3 NOTTINGHAMSHIRE 2

5/6 Play Off

Surrey v Northumbria

Isabelle Tweedle kicked things off for Surrey with a 3-1 win over Karen Heron before young Alison Thompson increased Surrey's advantage with an impressive 3-1 win over Lucy Beecroft at 3rd string. 5th place was then secured for the southerners when Katie Wilson cruised to a 3/0 victory over

Emma Barnett in just 16 minutes. The last 2 remaining matches saw Surrey's 1st string Harriet Ingham beat Sarah Bowles 3-0 in just 17 minutes, some pride however was restored when Northumbria's 2nd string Sam Ward beat Kim Graham 3-1 in the final match of the tie.

SURREY 4 NORTHUMBRIA 1

3/4 Play Off

Yorkshire v Lancashire

It was a battle of the Roses when these two counties met in the 3/4 play off, and with Lancashire a player down already the Yorkshire ladies looked to take advantage of this situation. Despite a tough battle from Lancashire's 4th string Lauren Tamilla, Andrea Santa Maria eventually prevailed 11/6 in the 5th. Yorkshire then took the next 2 matches 3-0 with 3rd string Katie Smith v Mandy Warren and 1st String Deon Saffery v Jenny Wright. Yorkshire's Fiona Moveley then made it a clean sweep taking the match 3/1 in a tight 34 minute encounter Helen De Los Rios

YORKSHIRE 5 LANCASHIRE 0

FINAL

Cheshire v Warwickshire

Last year's winners Warwickshire took on Cheshire in the final. 5th String Olivia Howell and 3rd string Rachel Chadwick got Cheshire off to a flying start both winning 3-0 against their respective opponents Rachel Woolford and Chloe Pearson. Kirsty West stepped on court knowing that a win would guide her team to their first ever senior Inter County title, and she didn't let the side down beating Jemma Holt 3-0 in just 18 minutes. Victory for Cheshire! Despite the remaining 2 matches of the tie being dead rubbers for the Warwickshire there was still some squash to be played. First on court was the match between current European U19 Champion and world No31 Emily Whitlock (Cheshire) and World No. 24 Emma Beddoes; Whitlock took the first 2 matches quite comfortably before Beddoes pulled one back in the 3rd. Disaster then struck the number 1 string for Warwickshire when she had to admit defeat in the 4th retiring due to illness gifting Whitlock the win. Warwickshire's 2nd string and current British U23 Champion Sarah Jane Perry then faced Cheshire's

Laura Mylotte in last match of the tie. Mylotte came back bravely from 2 games down, but Perry held her nerve to win the match 3-2 in 33 minutes - 5/11, 9/11, 11/4, 11/4, 4/11.

CHESHIRE 4 WARWICKSHIRE 1