

Team Chichester has already reached the play-offs but could they top the PSL League B as well?

Decision day; the final match of the group stages took place on Tuesday 4th April against rivals Surrey HRC. Both teams are guaranteed a place in the play-offs but would Chichester be the winners or the runners-up in League B? A 4.1 win would safeguard a top spot for Chichester and gain a home semi-final; other possible scenarios were also being formulated by the statisticians and Team Chichester was determined to finish in style but it was going to be extremely close.

First on court was Chichester's Jasmine Hutton and she faced a tough task against WR9, and former 3 in the world, Alison Waters. It was a massive learning curve for Jasmine and although she competed very well she lost in 3 games 4/11, 2/11, 5/11.

Meanwhile, on the glass-back court, Miles Jenkins played Rory Stewart. After a tough rallying encounter the first 2 games were shared 9/11, 11/9. From that point, Stewart proceeded to up the pace and errors began to appear in Jenkins' game. Stewart ran out the next 2 games 5/11, 2/11 to put Surrey up 0.2.

Adam Corcoran was next on court to play against Surrey's Aidan O'Brien. A very tight first game ensued and Corcoran held his nerve at the end of a rallying game to take it 11/9. There was more of the same in the second with another tight all-court rallying game which Corcoran managed to convert 11/9. Corcoran was now in control and forged a strong lead to finish the match 11/4 to put Chichester on the scoresheet.

Team Chichester's stalwart player, Tim Vail, was next up on the glass-back and started well against Diego Gobbi with his signature holds and flicks dominating the first game to go 1.0. up. In the next 2 games Vail controlled the match in every department to wrap up a 3.0 victory.

The final match and with it the title "League Winners" was between Olly Pett and Surrey's Ben Coleman. It really was down to the wire; every point was vital. The first two games were extremely tight. In the first, Pett reached 10/8 and game point but then, unfortunately, hit 4 tins. The second game proved just as close throughout and again Pett gained a game ball at 10/9 before losing it 10/12.

The match had been an all court affair and up to this point about closing out the games; Coleman took his chances and won both.

In the third Coleman's confidence continued to grow and he forged his way through to a 6/11 victory which gave Surrey a 2.3 win, Division B winners title and a home fixture for the semi-final.

Meanwhile Team Chichester will travel north to its semi-final and as the others still battled for positions the exact location is unsure.

Mike Phillips – Team Manager

Team Chichester 2-3 VA Surrey HRC

Olly Pett 0-3 Ben Coleman	10-12, 10-12, 6-11
Tim Vail 3-0 Diego Gobbi	11-4, 11-5, 11-3
Miles Jenkins 1-3 Rory Stewart	9-11, 11-9, 5-11, 3-11
Adam Corcoran 3-0 Aidan O'Brien	11-9, 11-9, 11-4
Jasmine Hutton 0-3 Alison Waters	4-11, 2-11, 5-11

