

Surrey County Notes (April 2019) by Chris Andrews

Surrey based Paul Drinkhall won the Men's Doubles title with Liam Pitchford at the National Champions. This is Paul's eleventh National Doubles. He was also runner-up in the Singles event. In the Nationals Para class 7-10 Aaron McKibbin was Runner-up. Danielle Kelly reached the semi-final of the Welsh National Women's Singles and the final of the Welsh Junior Girls Singles.

Amazing achievement for Surrey as both Surrey Junior 1st team and Surrey Cadet 1st team get promoted to their respective premier Leagues. Surrey Cadet I remained unbeaten and beat Suffolk 7-3, Middlesex I 6-4, Middlesex II 8-2 and Essex 7-3. The team consisted of Ollie Maric-Murray, Henry Maric-Murray, Ojasvii Borah, Evelyn Pace and Naziyah Hasan. Surrey Juniors beat Devon II 7-3, Dorset 6-4, lost to Essex 6-4 The Junior team consisted of Jamie Norton, Damiem Gray, Asa Gauntlett, Gabriella Lee and Karishma Shah.

Surrey Veterans I were relegated from Division 1B although they did have 2 wins. Surrey Veterans III were also relegated. However Surrey Veterans II are safe. Surrey Veterans IV beat Middlesex V 9-1 and drew 5-5 with Kent VI.

At the Cadet National Cup Ollie Maric-Murray beat England No. 10 Cadet Bertie Kelly with Ollie being at least 2 years younger than his opponents.

The National School Team Championships saw Whitgift School come second in the under-19 Boys category with Ernest Bevin third. Whitgift's James Smith had to make an overnight dash from the Italian Junior & Cadet Open. Ernest Bevin also came third in the Boys under-16's event. Danielle Kelly's School won the under-16's Girls title. Wallington School came 2nd in the under-13's Boys event.

Krish Chotai won silver in the under-13's event at the Burgess Hill Cadet & Junior 2 star with George Noel winning Bronze at the same event. In the under 14-'s event George Noel took his revenge on Krish Chotai to claim silver with Krish collecting the Bronze medal. Vincent Quiambao was runner-up in the consolation event. Alex McDonell came fourth in the under-17's event and won Bronze in the under-18's event.

At the Surrey Junior & Cadet Closed tournament 2018/19 there was over 30 competitors in the cadet events alone. In the Quarter-finals of the cadet event:- Ollie Maric-Murray beat George Noel, Ojasvii Borah beat Rocco Martinez-Paoli, Adam Palmer beat Krish Chotai and Henry Maric-Murray beat Harshil Shah. The semi-finals went to plan as both Ollie Maric-Murray and Henry Maric-Murray won 3 straight. The final was a family affair as Goran Maric Umpired the match. It was a superb match of defender versus attacker which No.1 seed Ollie Maric-Murray won 3-1 (11-8,11-7,7-11,12-10). The Cadet Girls event was a Round Robin and Yuvathi Kumar won by beating everyone in her path. Second place was a 3 way split between Evelyn Pace, Naziyah Hasan and Emily Cheung which Naziyah won on count back. The Junior Girls was also a round robin, with the pivotal match being between Federico Bonato and Gabriela Lee which Federico won 11-8 in the fifth set. In the Junior Boys event at the quarter-finals stages Henry Maric-Murray had a great win over Adam Benmohamed 3-1. Elsewhere:- Robert Pelc beat George Noel, Damien Gray beat Ollie Maric-Murray and Jamie Nordin beat Charlie Cunningham. In the semi-final Robert Pelc beat Damien Gray 3-1 and Jamie Nordin beat Henry Maric-Murray 3-0. This set up a

Seed 1 versus seed 2 final. Although Robert Pelc was seeded 1 it was Jamie Nordin who had beaten him in this tournament 2 years in a row to be Champion. The final was an absolutely cracking match. Robert took the first two sets 12-10 and 11-9, after which Robert led 8-4 in the third set. Jamie then went on to win the next 8 points in a row to win the third set and start the fourth. The fourth set was a battle but Robert went up 10-6 surely the moment was now. However after 5 match points for Robert, Jamie took the fourth 14-12. The fifth set was also close but Jamie won 11-9 to retain his crown. It was a great tournament well run by International Umpire Margot Fraser.

The National Cadet League after day 3 saw Graham Spicer A come second in Division 1 with Daniel Clark on 76.9% Jin Su Choi on 57.7 % and Lenard Rzepka on 52.9%. Graham Spicers Girls topped Division 3 with Eyelyn Pace on 100%, Chui-Que Wong on 88.9% and Lucy Adams on 55.6%.

Haslemere's Junior Singles tournament saw Dan of Peterfield beat James of Fernhurst 15-13, 12-14, 11-7, 11-9. The Haslemere Junior Team competition went to the wire with W H Winners managing to triumph by one point.

The Reigate and Redhill League Championships were as follows:- Over-50's Winner Chris Pullinger Runner-up Michelle McGovern, Division 1 Winner C Hodges Runner-up D Bond, Division 3 Winner E Minor Runner-up D Kiernander, Handicap C Pullinger Runner-up J Sawyer, Doubles Winners S Fisher & M McGovern, Runners-up P Newton & E Newton, Open Winner R Scott Runner-up P Newton, Ladies Winner L Clark Runner-up S Milne.

The winners of the Sutton & District Closed Championships were as follows:- Open Singles R. Tanner, Division 2 Singles A. Norman, Division 3 Singles G. Noel, Division 4 Singles A. Nagarajan, Veteran Singles R.Tanner, Super Veteran Singles G.Granger, Handicap Singles K. Nagarajan, Consolation Singles S.Pingram Open Doubles R. Tanner & A. Jackson.