

## Surrey Schools Championships (November 2009)

Giles by a mile with a smile!

The Surrey Schools under 11♠s final was between Surrey No 1 Marcus Giles (St Luke♠s School, Kingston) and Surrey No 2 Alex Kwaskowski (St Anselm♠s, Tooting). Marcus did not hesitate to surge into an early lead, rarely giving Alex the opportunity to dominate. Alex tried to claw his way back but saw Marcus win through 1, 8, 9.

Marcus Giles also cruised to the final of the under 13♠s whilst there were upsets in the lower half of the draw. Alex Kwaskowski made an earlier than expected quarter final exit to Andre Dunkley (Ernest Bevin) who in turn lost to his No 2 seed schoolmate Lobsang Lama. Marcus was just that bit stronger at counter hitting and duly won 8, 7, 7.

All players mentioned thus far failed to make it to the final of the U13♠s doubles. This was very closely contested with Matthew Gold and Joshua Haasz (Whitgift School) edging out Oliver Casey and James Reynolds (Kings College School) -8, 11, 11, 12.

The under 16♠s doubles event was dominated by Ernest Bevin players. In the final Emre Ibatoglu and Antoney Patten saw their trophy unexpectedly snatched away by Gobi Sriparen and Lobsang Lama -9, -8, 9, -11.

Semi finals of the singles for the under 16♠s saw Michael Ho (Wilson♠s School) scrape home against Ernest Bevin♠s Antoney Patten 4, 3, -15, -9, 9. The other semi was similarly close with Emre Ibatoglu struggling to contain Gobi Sriparen but succeeding 9, -7, 3, -7, 8. This left the Surrey No 1 & 2 juniors to battle out the final. It was evenly contested until Michael Ho served off at 4-5 in the 5th game which gave Emre Ibatoglu the confidence boost to take the set -6, 6, 15, -9, 7.

And so to the under 19♠s events. In the singles it was Michael Ho who excelled in recovering from a two game deficit. Alex Forshaw (St Bede♠s, Redhill) was his surprise opponent in the semis with Alex having beaten Gobi Sriparen -7, 7, -6, 9, 9. Gobi had earlier disposed of Whitgift♠s Patrick Hui by a similar margin. Michael beat Alex -7, -9, 12, 8, 8. So on this occasion the final was as seeded with Michael Ho again facing Emre Ibatoglu. This time it was Michael♠s powerful backhand which dominated proceedings and saw him through -10, 13, -9, 7, 6.

Lastly the under 19♠s doubles final was between Whitgift School and Wilson♠s. In yet another closely contested set Patrick Hui and Andrew Ankrah got the better of Michael Ho and Harry Frost in a nail-biting -8, 12, -2, 8, 11.

A vote of thanks must be extended to Margot Fraser for running the day so smoothly and to Whitgift School Croydon for the use of their ten tables and first class playing facilities.

Michael Loveder



[Alex Kwaskowski](#)



[Alex Kwaskowski & Marcus Giles](#)



Marcus Giles