

## COLCHESTER & EAST ESSEX BADMINTON FEDERATION

### **TOURNAMENT SECRETARY'S REPORT 2012**

The fifty-fifth annual tournament was held on 31<sup>st</sup> March and 1st April at the University of Essex, who hosted the tournament for the seventh time.

Saturday proved a busy day with 32 men's singles entrants and twenty-five pairs in the men's doubles. We used *Tournament Software* for the first time to assist us with running the tournament. The main benefit was the time saved in making the draws and preparing the tournament programme. I was lucky to have IT expert Simon Gilhooly to help with running the software.

George Isherwood (YMCA, Ipswich) successfully defended his men's singles trophy, beating Li Qi (University of Essex) and Asif Qureshi (Frenford) on the way to the final. In the same half of the draw six times winner Daniel Eghan (Paddocks) had lost to Asif in the second round. In the quarter finals of the bottom half of the draw Simon Gilhooly (Stanway) lost to Dan Moss (YMCA) and second seed Basil Tallah (United Shuttlers) defeated Daniel Hooper (YMCA). Tallah then defeated Moss, before losing to Isherwood in a closely contested, three game final. The plate event was won by young Jack Hillsden from Chelmsford Casuals. He beat Martin Turner (Invicta St Pauls) in the final. Well done to beginner Turner's club-mate Chris Gibbons who reached the semi-final.

Rebecca Terry (Fitzwymarc), defending her singles trophy for the second time, but after beating Linzi Chatfield (Coastal Wanderers) in the semi-finals, she found debutante Tanapat Pisitpong (University of Essex) from Thailand in very sharp form. Mandy Davies (Coastal Wanderers) won the plate event by defeating Claire Mainwaring (Bishops Stortford) in the final.

A record turnout in the men's doubles proved the basis of a very competitive and high quality event. Last year's winner Bir Singh (Frenford) had a new partner in Nadeem Shokat but they exited the tournament in the quarter-finals, losing to Mark Law (All Nations) and Rudy Sutato. The latter went on to beat the young YMCA paring of Dan Moss and Daniel Hooper, who had beaten Stanway pair Trevor Rogers and Andrew Lager, in the semi-finals. In the bottom half of the draw another Stanway pair, Alex Chu and Simon Gilhooly also went out in the quarter finals, losing to the surprise pair from Danbury Mike Frost and Paul Kirby. The number two seeds, Basil Tallah and Asif Qureshi (United Shuttlers), however, proved too strong for the Danbury pair. In two close games the number two seeds overcame the challenge of Law and Sutato in the final to take the title. It was proving a good tournament for the Danbury players, as Adam Parr and Junho Gong, defeated the Gooday brothers Mark and Stephen (Chelmsford Casuals) in the final. Both the St Mary Magdalen pairs James Cesareo and Simon Ford and Chris Ranson and Martin Southgate reached the semi-finals.

Eight pairs contested the ladies' doubles event. The holders Mandy Davies and Linzi Chatfield retained their title with a win over the University of Essex pairing of Garbo Lau and Tanapat Pisitpong. Just to show that the Danbury club had some useful ladies, Wendy Entwistle and Yoong Kwon took the plate event by beating Claire Mainwaring and Alison Cosadinos from Bishops Stortford.

The Sunday saw twelve pairs contest the mixed doubles event. Three groups of round robin were played, with the winners of each group being Craig Pilgrim (Stanway) and Tanapat Pisitpong, Mike Frost and Wendy Entwistle (Danbury) and Adam Parr and Yoong Kwon (also Danbury). Paul and Wendy Hyde (Crouch Vale) went through to the semi-finals by being the best runner-up. Parr and Wendy Entwistle won the all Danbury affair and met Pilgrim and Tanapat in the final, with the latter taking the title after a hard fought battle. The plate final was a St Mary Magdalen contest, with James Cesareo and Vicky Wrycraft beating Martin Southgate and Teresa Bartlett in three games.

Five pairs contested the over 40 men's doubles. It proved to be a fun, round-robin competition, won by James Cesareo (St Mary Magdalen) and Keith Burmby (Garrison), although no games proved a walkover. Runners-up were Dil Pun and Gun Pun. Many photographs were taken and many hands shaken and I would be sure most of the pairs will return next year. Following the withdrawal of Simon Clark and Ruth Freeborough (Brentwood Feathers) through injury, only three pairs contested the over 40 mixed doubles. Keith Burmby and Teresa Bartlett overcame a very tired James Cesareo and his partner Sally Taylor to win the trophy, with Julian Barber and Jacqui Dol (St Mary Magdalen) being the runners-up.

The Mayor of Colchester, Helen Chuah, paid a visit on Saturday afternoon to present the singles trophies. I thank Nikki Richardson for her assistance in welcoming and looking after the Mayor. Chairman Simon Gilhooly presented the Mayor with a nice-looking plant. Once again we were fortunate to have Robin Metson, who looked after the shuttlecocks in his usual efficient way. I thank Max Sports for their provision of the shuttlecocks and the individual trophies. I also thank the staff at the University, who were, as usual, very co-operative and helpful.

#### Results:

Men's Singles Open: G. Isherwood (YMCA) beat B. Tallah (United Shuttlers) 21-16, 15-21, 21-13  
Men's Singles Plate: J. Hillsden (Chelmsford Casuals) beat M. Turner (Invicta St Pauls) 21-15, 21-19  
Ladies' Singles Open: Tanapat Pisitpong (University of Essex) beat R. Terry (Fitzwimarc) 21-6, 21-3  
Ladies' Singles Plate: M. Davies (Coastal Wanderers) beat C. Mainwaring (Bishops Stortford)  
Men's Doubles Open: Asif Qureshi, B. Tallah (United Shuttlers) beat M. Law (Allnations), R. Sutato 21-15, 21-19  
Men's Doubles Plate: Junho Gong, A. Parr (Danbury) beat M. Gooday, S. Gooday (Chelmsford Casuals) 19-21, 21-17, 21-19  
Ladies' Doubles Open: M. Davies, L. Chatfield (Coastal Wanderers) beat G. Lau, Tanapat Pisitpong (University of Essex)  
Ladies' Doubles Plate: W. Entwistle, Yoong Kwon (Danbury) beat A. Cosadinos, C. Mainwaring (Bishops Stortford) 21-12, 21-14  
Mixed Doubles Open: C. Pilgrim (Stanway), Tanapat Pisitpong (University of Essex) beat A. Parr, Yoong Kwon (Danbury) 21-18, 21-17  
Mixed Doubles Plate: J. Cesareo, V. Wrycraft (St Mary Magdalen) beat M. Southgate, T. Bartlett (St Mary Magdalen) 22-24, 21-16, 21-13  
Men's Doubles Over 40: Winners J. Cesareo (St Mary Magdalen), K. Burmby (Garrison); runners-up Dil Pun, Gun Pun (Colchester Leisure Centre)  
Mixed Doubles Over 40: Winners K. Burmby (Garrison), T. Bartlett (St Mary Magdalen); runners-up J. Barber, J. Dol (St Mary Magdalen).

St Osyth became the winners of the Knock-Out Cup for the second time in three years, following their win over Invicta St Pauls at Great Bentley on 23<sup>rd</sup> April. St Osyth had knocked out last year's winners Monkwick St Peters in the first round, before beating St Mary Magdalen and Earls Colne to reach the final. In the top half of the draw Invicta St Pauls had triumphed over Garrison, Stanway and Exiles. Invicta won sixteen of the eighteen rubbers in the final, but failed to overcome the 138 points handicap awarded to their opponents. Once again I am grateful to Lousie Walsh and Simon Gilhooly for assisting with the difficult task of setting of the handicaps.

John Stuck  
Tournament Secretary