

Season 2017-18
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Swifts Junior
Badminton Club



**Badminton England
Club of the Year 2017**

**Surrey Heath
Sports Club of the Year 2016**

***If the training is easy
the match will be hard,
but if the training is
hard the match will be
easy.***

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NJBL national finals

The third edition of the National Junior Badminton League national finals was held at BE's National Badminton Centre in Milton Keynes this Saturday, and the Swifts U12 and U16 teams had qualified to take part.

They had a lot to live up to as Swifts teams had won four of the six previously-contested sections in the first two years of the competition, and had been runners-up in the other two.

Our U16s were missing three of the players that had got them there by winning the Surrey South Plus competition, so three players stepped up from the Swifts B team that had also taken part in that event.

The U12s, managed by Vidya Shirol, were in a section with only four competing teams so were scheduled to play best-of-five to nine points. Unfazed by the rule change they quickly settled into a winning routine and won every match (against teams from Avon, Devon and Suffolk) 5-0 to comfortably take the national title, and concede only one game out of 46 played while doing so.

Christine Thompson, meanwhile, looked after the U16s who had, it turned out, more formidable opposition to overcome. Nevertheless, the initial group phase was completed with three victories against teams from Buckinghamshire, Devon and Lincolnshire, though the match against Queens, from Devon, was no easy contest.

This ensured that, in the semi-final, we would face the second-placed team from the other group of four teams, Mid Wilts.

Having dispatched Mid Wilts 5-0, the final brought on the other group's winner, Chew Valley, a qualifier from Avon, and Christine duly shuffled her pack. In prospect were a couple of tough singles rubbers and only the girls' doubles could be seen as a banker.

Helped by the opposition coach naming an unexpectedly weak boys' doubles pairing, some magnificently calm come-back play by Anish Goel in the boy's singles rubber, and a clear determination to overcome the obvious signs of (over-)confident expectation in the opposition, the team pushed on and won 4-1 to take the second national title of the day. Lily Clark deserves mention, having played in ten rubbers undefeated all day.

Berkshire, who defeated our U14s in the qualifier, made it a Surrey South Plus triple by winning the U14 competition on Sunday, and by also beating a team from Chew Valley in the final. So our U14s can console themselves that they lost only to the eventual national champions.

NJBL young officials

Our successful teams may claim all the glory but Annabella Salt and Amelia Sheffield also played a vital role on Saturday when they acted as umpires for the NJBL tournament.

They saw that BE was short of young officials, volunteered to get involved, and received training, a uniform and a jolly good lunch for their troubles, as well as the best view of the action on the day.

County representation

Lila Dundas, Sebastian Grove and Hayden Mitchell were all members of the Surrey U14 team that took part in the eight-team county invitation event in York at the weekend.



National circuit results

Lila Dundas competed in the U14 Yorkshire Open tournament on Sunday, following the team event on Saturday. She reached the last sixteen of the girls' singles and was runner-up in the doubles.

Holly Ranson played in the Essex U12 Open and reached the singles quarter-final and was third in the doubles event.

Local tournament results

It was the turn of the U12s and U16s in the local Jubilee Tournament this Sunday. It was misreported last week that Amy Chapman was Callum Mitchell's U18 mixed-winning partner; in fact, it was Ellie Darlington.

In the U12s, Leah Naish & Amelia Wells won the girls' event, Matthew Barnfield & Ben Ford won the boys' event, while Nathan Gibson & Amelia won the mixed.

Nathan & James Warne were boys' runners-up while Matthew & Ruby Clark were mixed runners-up and Jessica Addy & Emma Ranson were girls' runners-up. Ben and Leah won the mixed Plate.

In the U16s Amy Chapman & Serena Farrelly were winners of the girls' event with Jacob Sheffield & Katie Remment winning the mixed. Geethika Allanku & Saatvika Mahesh were girls' runners-up.

Sandhya Jaikumar was third and won the Bronze in the mixed event, while Raghav Jaikumar (the only Swifts entrant) was third and Bronze winner in the boys' event.

Pictures from the NJBL



NJBL U12 champions for 2017-18: Temisha Veeramootoo, Ruby Clark, Siddhanth Shirol, Amelia Wells and Vinay Rajen



The hard work meant this lot were hungry by the time the presentations came around—they were chewing on their medals in the vain hope of gaining sustenance

Pictures from the NJBL



NJBL U16 champions for 2017-18: Jacob Sheffield, Lily Clark, Geethika Allanku, Anish Goel, William Salt and Saatvika Mahesh



The victorious U16 team pictured with young tournament officials Amelia Sheffield (l) and Annabella Salt (r), and team manager Christine Thompson (c)

Pictures from the weekend



Clockwise from top left:

Amelia Wells & Nathan Gibson

Leah Naish & Amelia Wells

Matthew Barnfield & Ben Ford



Ruby Clark & Matthew Barnfield

Leah Naish & Ben Ford



More pictures from the weekend



Katie Remment & Jacob Sheffield



Saatvika Mahesh & Geethika Allanku



Emma Ranson & Jessica Addy

National Junior Badminton League

U12s					
Group A					
Team	Pos	Swifts	Bristol Jets Severn Vale	Abbeygate	Kuasa
Swifts	1		5	5	5
Bristol Jets Severn Vale	3	0		2	3
Abbeygate	2	0	3		3
Kuasa	4	0	2	2	

Group	Swifts			Score	Kuasa	
	Player 1	Player 2	Player 1		Player 2	
BS	Vinay Rajen			9-6,9-4,9-6	Isaac Jackson	
GS	Ruby Clark			9-7,9-4,9-2	Melody Valentine	
BD	Vinay Rajen	Siddhanth Shirol		9-5,9-3,9-4	Daniel Cooper	Isaac Jackson
GD	Temisha Veeramootoo	Amelia Wells		9-3,9-5,9-3	Roxy Davies	Melody Valentine
Mixed	Siddhanth Shirol	Temisha Veeramootoo		9-0,9-2,9-4	Daniel Cooper	Roxy Davies
		Match Score		5-0		

National Junior Badminton League

Group	Swifts			Bristol Jets Severn Vale	
	Player 1	Player 2	Score	Player 1	Player 2
BS	Vinay Rajen		9-4,9-0,9-6	Jack Warren	
GS	Ruby Clark		9-4,9-6,9-1	Isobel Spence	
BD	Vinay Rajen	Siddhanth Shirol	9-8,9-0,9-4	Isaac Buckingham	Josh Parcell
GD	Ruby Clark	Amelia Wells	9-0,7-9,9-6,9-1	Lucy Morling	Isobel Spence
Mixed	Siddhanth Shirol	Amelia Wells	9-6,9-5,9-2	Isaac Buckingham	Lucy Morling
		Match Score	5-0		

Group	Swifts			Abbeygate	
	Player 1	Player 2	Score	Player 1	Player 2
BS	Vinay Rajen		9-0,9-2,9-1	Krishna Sinha	
GS	Ruby Clark		9-7,9-7,9-7	Georgina Salt	
BD	Vinay Rajen	Siddhanth Shirol	9-0,9-2,9-0	Harrison Day	Krishna Sinha
GD	Ruby Clark	Amelia Wells	9-4,9-4,9-8	Eva Boggis	Georgina Salt
Mixed	Siddhanth Shirol	Amelia Wells	9-4,9-2,9-2	Harrison Day	Eva Boggis
		Match Score	5-0		

National Junior Badminton League

U16s					
Group A					
Team	Pos	Swifts	Chalfont Eagles	Queens	Kesteven Superzone
Swifts	1		4	4	5
Chalfont Eagles	3	1		1	5
Queens	2	1	4		5
Kesteven Superzone	4	0	0	0	

U16s				
Group B				
Player	Pos	Chew Valley	Mid Wilts	Ipswich YMCA
Chew Valley	1		4	4
Mid Wilts	2	1		3
Ipswich YMCA	3	1	2	

Semi-finals

Swifts 5 v 0 Mid Wilts

Chew Valley 4 v 1 Queens

Final

Swifts 4 v 1 Chew Valley

National Junior Badminton League

Group	Swifts			Kesteven Superzone	
	Player 1	Player 2	Score	Player 1	Player 2
BS	Anish Goel		9-1,9-1	Gytis Vysniaukas	
GS	Lily Clark		9-4,7-9,5-1	Katie Smith	
BD	Anish Goel	William Salt	9-5,9-1	Cameron Stodart	Gytis Vysniaukas
GD	Geethika Allanku	Lily Clark	9-1,9-5	Ella Thomson	Tess Wilkins
Mixed	Jacob Sheffield	Saatvika Mahesh	9-4,9-5	Cameron Stodart	Tess Wilkins
		Match Score	5-0		

Group	Swifts			Chalfont Eagles	
	Player 1	Player 2	Score	Player 1	Player 2
BS	Anish Goel		9-4,9-2	Brendan Dunne	
GS	Lily Clark		9-3,9-4	Maya Davies	
BD	Anish Goel	William Salt	8-9,8-9	Ben Cross	Brendan Dunne
GD	Geethika Allanku	Lily Clark	9-1,9-0	Maya Davies	Lina Hughes
Mixed	Jacob Sheffield	Saatvika Mahesh	8-9,9-4,5-3	Elliot Sweeney	Lina Hughes
		Match Score	4-1		

Group	Swifts			Queens	
	Player 1	Player 2	Score	Player 1	Player 2
BS	Anish Goel		9-4,9-6	Aaron Beel	
GS	Lily Clark		9-7,9-7	Eleanor O'Callaghan	
BD	Anish Goel	William Salt	9-5,9-6	Aaron Beel	Ryan Dawson
GD	Geethika Allanku	Lily Clark	9-2,9-5	Eleanor O'Callaghan	Emilia Partridge
Mixed	Jacob Sheffield	Saatvika Mahesh	7-9,9-3,4-5	Ryan Dawson	Emilia Partridge
		Match Score	4-1		

National Junior Badminton League

	Swifts			Mid Wilts		
Semi-final	Player 1	Player 2	Score	Player 1	Player 2	
BS		Anish Goel	9-6,9-4		Max Bryant	
GS		Lily Clark	7-9,9-3,5-3		Megan Williams	
BD	Anish Goel	William Salt	9-6,4-9,5-1	Max Bryant	Joshua Johnson	
GD	Geethika Allanku	Lily Clark	9-3,9-6	Millie Gould	Megan Williams	
Mixed	Jacob Sheffield	Saatvika Mahesh	9-1,9-2	Joshua Johnson	Millie Gould	
		Match Score	5-0			

	Swifts			Chew Valley		
Final	Player 1	Player 2	Score	Player 1	Player 2	
BS		Anish Goel	4-9,9-2,5-0		Barry Pridmore	
GS		Lily Clark	9-3,9-4		Susanna Ogden	
BD	Anish Goel	Jacob Sheffield	9-6,9-1	Cam Rowlands	George Thompson	
GD	Geethika Allanku	Lily Clark	9-2,9-7	Amy Mellersh	Susanna Ogden	
Mixed	Jacob Sheffield	Saatvika Mahesh	6-9,6-9	Harvey Thompson	Amy Mellersh	
		Match Score	4-1			