

Season 2013-14
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*If the training is easy
the match will be hard,
but if the training is
hard the match will be
easy.*

SWIFTS JUNIOR
BADMINTON CLUB
www.swiftsjbc.org.uk

Match Secretary

Cliff Buffham
17 Green Hill Road
Camberley GU15 1PF

Phone: 01276 25078
E-mail: cliff_buffham@ntlworld.com

Match summary

We didn't have any matches this week but there was an error in the details of the Eagles v Swifts ACDBL U16 boys match last Friday. The correct version is later in this newsletter.

International representation

Samodani Wijetunge played in the England U15 team that finished third in the Eight Nations team international in Denmark last week. She also won a bronze medal by reaching the semi-final of the girls' double event.

Local tournament results

The U14 and U16 age groups of the local ACDBL singles tournament was held at Lightwater on Sunday, with plenty of Swifts involvement (our members won six of the eight contested events and also gained four runners-up places.

Connor Strudwick won the boys U14 A grade, while Connor Curtis was runner-up in the B grade.

Imogen Galvin and Serena Farrelly were winner and runner-up respectively in the U14 girls' A grade, while Jenna Biddle won the B grade.

Elena Koutas reached the semi-final of the B grade.

Chris Gane was runner-up in the U16 boys' A grade, while Jason Fisher won the B grade.

Holly Weston won the girls' A grade, while Jodie Teale and Jessica Mallett were winner and runner-up, respectively in the B grade.



Holly Weston & Jodie Teale



Serena Farrelly & Imogen Galvin

County representation

Ollie Thompson played for Surrey (adult) 2nd team on Sunday, in a top-of-the-table win against Middlesex in the ICC.

Last Sunday Harry Owens and Alex Tennant-Smith both played in a Berkshire U15 team that finished third in a quadrangular county invitational event involving two Sussex teams and Hertfordshire.

Graded singles tournament

The league tournament might have been held on Sunday but the biggest tournament in town was our own Swifts graded singles tournament on Saturday. Despite a number of withdrawals through injury and illness during the week we still had our highest ever entry in the singles, at 89 competitors. We played a record number of games, 266, and just managed to squeeze them in by 3pm.

Full details can be found later in the newsletter, but summary results are:

Event	Winner	Runner-up
Boys grade A	Daryn Howes	Chris Lai
Boys grade B	Connor Strudwick	Connor McCartney
Boys grade C	Timothy Lai	Jonathan Chong
Boys grade D	Joshua Craven	Harry Bloomfield
Boys grade E	Christian Attree	Hayden Mitchell
Boys grade F	John Canning	Sebastian Grove
Boys grade G	Benjamin Hazevoet	Nathan Gibson
Girls grade A	Stephanie Pipe	Holly Weston
Girls grade B	Jessica Mallett	Serena Farrelly
Girls grade C	Elena Koutas	Amy Chapman
Girls grade D	Ruth Devapragasam	Aanya Nathwani
Girls grade E	Daisy Murphy	Lila Dundas

Many thanks to those parents and members who helped by scoring the junior grades on Saturday. Thanks to all entrants who helped a lot by communicating well in advance of the day, being there on time and not dropping out on the day; only one player was marginally late and only three members failed to let us know whether they wished to enter.

The way everyone helped by keeping the competition moving to time is also important, and much appreciated by the organisers. We finished our last two sections on the dot of 3pm, so you see how important that was.

ACDBL match results

Location: Walton-on-Thames

Date: 21 Feb 2014

Opposition: Eagles
 Away U16A Boys

Result: Won 185 - 172

Swifts	Alex Tennant-Smith	Connor Strudwick	Harry Owens	Flynn Thatcher
Opposition	Adam	Hebroyn	John	Harri

Home Players		Score		Away Players	
Adam Shepherd		21	9	Alex Tennant-Smith	
Hebroyn D'Souza		13	21	Connor Strudwick	
John Ewart		11	21	Harry Owens	
Harri Holmes-Davies		16	21	Flynn Thatcher	
Adam Shepherd	Hebroyn D'Souza	21	12	Alex Tennant-Smith	Connor Strudwick
John Ewart	Harri Holmes-Davies	21	20	Harry Owens	Flynn Thatcher
Adam Shepherd	John Ewart	19	21	Alex Tennant-Smith	Harry Owens
Hebroyn D'Souza	Harri Holmes-Davies	16	21	Connor Strudwick	Flynn Thatcher
Adam Shepherd	Harri Holmes-Davies	21	18	Alex Tennant-Smith	Flynn Thatcher
Hebroyn D'Souza	John Ewart	13	21	Connor Strudwick	Harry Owens
		172	185		

Swifts graded singles tournament

BOYS' G GRADE						
Group A						
Player	Pos	Dominic Leckie	Ben Ford	Marco Naumov	Benjamin Hazevoet	Nathan Gibson
Dominic Leckie			12	15	6	10
Ben Ford	3	15		15	6	10
Marco Naumov		5	9		6	15
Benjamin Hazevoet	1	15	15	15		15
Nathan Gibson	2	15	15	11	13	

Our most junior group of boys seemed to enjoy themselves, and they all managed to win at least one game. Like the equivalent group of girls, these players are quite inconsistent and it was very difficult to predict who might win. However, Benjamin seemed fairly comfortable, only being troubled by a close game with Nathan.



Benjamin Hazevoet & Nathan Gibson

Swifts graded singles tournament

BOYS' F GRADE							
Group A							
Player	Pos	Timothy Canning	Jonathan Lai	Matthew Grove	Hector Earnshaw	Sebastian Grove	John Canning
Timothy Canning			15	6	11	10	12
Jonathan Lai		9		15	14	6	15
Matthew Grove		15	9		15	13	5
Hector Earnshaw		15	15	8		6	11
Sebastian Grove	2	15	15	15	15		9
John Canning	1	15	6	15	15	15	

With two pairs of siblings in the group this grade was always going to be a potential nightmare for the watching parents. As it turned out all the intra-family games were quite close. In fact, the whole group was closely matched with the winner losing to a player who himself lost to the last-placed boy. Things could have easily turned out very differently.



John Canning & Sebastian Grove

Swifts graded singles tournament

BOYS' E GRADE

Group A						
Player	Pos.	Thomas Newman	Luc Frean	Archie Pendry	Joseph Cowdery	Christian Attree
Thomas Newman			13	12	12	8
Luc Frean	1	15		15	15	15
Archie Pendry	3	15	8		15	7
Joseph Cowdery		15	4	7		5
Christian Attree	2	15	8	15	15	

Semi-finals

Luc Frean 14

v

Hayden Mitchell 15

Matthew Lister 10

v

Christian Attree 15

Final

Hayden Mitchell 10

v

Christian Attree 15

BOYS' E GRADE

Group B						
Player	Pos.	Matthew Lister	Hayden Mitchell	Cameron Warne	Henry Sutton	Jacob French
Matthew Lister	1		15	15	15	13
Hayden Mitchell	2	13		15	15	15
Cameron Warne		7	13		15	15
Henry Sutton		8	9	9		10
Jacob French		15	13	13	15	

With a five year age gap between oldest and youngest, Hayden, as the youngest entrant, did very well in getting to the final. There was a very high proportion of games decided by only one or two points here, so the competition was very tight.



Christian Attree & Hayden Mitchell

Swifts graded singles tournament

BOYS' GRADE D SINGLES

Group A										
Player	Pos	Daniel Roach	Joseph Frean	Harry Bloomfield	Ben Atkins	Joshua Craven	Dominic Nabasa	Jack Wetherall	Zak Theodoulou	Toby Hodges-Long
Daniel Roach	3		9	9	8	11	11	11	11	11
Joseph Frean		11		9	11	9	5	6	11	11
Harry Bloomfield	2	11	11		11	10	10	6	11	11
Ben Atkins		11	9	6		9	11	6	10	11
Joshua Craven	1	7	11	11	11		11	11	11	11
Dominic Nabasa	4	5	11	11	9	10		11	11	11
Jack Wetherall	5	7	11	11	11	7	9		11	11
Zak Theodoulou		9	9	9	11	9	10	5		11
Toby Hodges-Long		5	10	8	7	7	6	4	8	

With nine entrants, we felt this group would benefit from lots of relatively short games and everyone playing everyone else. Only one player failed to win a game, and he was coming back from injury and understandably didn't perform as well as he expected, though he should not lose sight of the fact he was the youngest player (giving away three years to some). The others all won at least two games, and we had the organiser's nightmare of a four-way tie for second place which entailed reaching into the very depths of the tie-break rules.



Harry Bloomfield & Joshua Craven

Swifts graded singles tournament

BOYS' C GRADE

Group A									
Player	Pos	Thomas Chan	Jason Fisher	Lucas Downes	Tim Lai	Jonathan Chong	Harry Hodges-Long	Kalvin Liang	Connor Curtis
Thomas Chan			3	15	7	8	10	13	10
Jason Fisher	3	15		15	15	12	15	15	15
Lucas Downes		11	6		6	4	9	17	13
Tim Lai	1	15	14	15		15	15	15	15
Jonathan Chong	2	15	15	15	14		15	15	15
Harry Hodges-Long		15	1	15	12	6		15	15
Kalvin Liang		15	5	15	9	1	7		13
Connor Curtis		15	10	15	8	10	12	15	

The winner, Tim Lai, should be feeling very pleased with himself as he was giving away between two and four years of age and to every opponent, as well as a foot or so of height. The group was another closely-matched one and we ended up with a three-way tie for first place, and it all hinged on the differences between small margins between those three players.



Jonathan Chong & Tim Lai

Swifts graded singles tournament

BOYS' B GRADE

Group A							
Player	Pos	Flynn Thatcher	Peter Beech	Connor McCartney	Harry Williams	Ben Cullen	Henry Bradshaw
Flynn Thatcher			9	9	15	11	15
Peter Beech	1	15		15	1 (Ret)	15	15
Connor McCartney	2	15	5		15	15	15
Harry Williams		12	15	11		14	9
Ben Cullen	3	15	11	2	15		15
Henry Bradshaw		13	12	11	15	8	

Semi-finals

Connor McCartney 21

v

Harry Owens 12

Connor Strudwick 21

v

Ben Cullen 11

Final

Connor McCartney 7

v

Connor Strudwick 21

BOYS' B GRADE

Group B						
Player	Pos	Callum Mitchell	Connor Strudwick	Ben Coker	Harry Owens	Alex Tennant-Smith
Callum Mitchell			20	16	17	21
Connor Strudwick	1	21		21	21	21
Ben Coker		21	16		11	21
Harry Owens	2	21	18	21		21
Alex Tennant-Smith		15	11	11	13	



Connor Strudwick & Connor McCartney

With eleven entrants, this group had to be played with a knock-out section following two groups. The group phase ended in an unusual way when Peter Beech, having already won group A, had to retire with an injury at the beginning of his last game, against Harry Williams. This promoted Connor McCartney to first in the group and gave Ben Cullen a lifeline into the semi-final. Bad luck Peter!

Swifts graded singles tournament

BOYS' A SINGLES					
Group A					
Player	Pos	Daryn Howes	Nathaniel Brittany	Chris Gane	Chris Lai
Daryn Howes	1		21 21	21 21	15 21
Nathaniel Brittany		15 19		21 21	21 19
Chris Gane		12 10	17 9		11 16
Chris Lai	2	21 17	19 21	21 21	

This can be very much the blood and thunder end of the club with very fast play and plenty of hard hitting. As there were only four entrants (the others were all playing elsewhere, or at Saturday school) we sent them round twice to try and get some energy off them. Daryn distinguished himself by (a) becoming the very first non-county squad member to win the Swifts boys' A grade and (b) being the first to do so with the hair on his legs shaved into a spiral. I'm doubtful that anyone will be emulating that feat in the near future!



Daryn Howes & Chris Lai

Swifts graded singles tournament

GIRLS' E GRADE							
Group A							
Player	Pos	Erin Christian	Marianne Wu	Lila Dundas	Rebecca Singer	Daisy Murphy	Paige Daniel
Erin Christian			3	3	11	6	10
Marianne Wu	3	11		4	11	5	11
Lila Dundas	2	11	11		11	7	11
Rebecca Singer		4	5	1		2	0
Daisy Murphy	1	11	11	11	11		11
Paige Daniel		11	5	5	11	4	

At this end of the skill spectrum, please spare a thought for those that finished bottom. Our latest young recruits joined very late in 2013 or early in 2014, and have benefitted from less than half as much coaching as those that joined at the beginning of the season, which makes a huge difference, especially if the age difference is three or four years.



Daisy Murphy & Lila Dundas

Swifts graded singles tournament

GIRLS' D GRADE

Group A									
Player	Pos	Sophie Walter	Aanya Nathwani	Devashri Moodley	Ruth Devapragasam	Antonella Naumova	Emily Nielsen	Gemma Downes	Annabelle Atkins
Sophie Walter			3	8	4	8	5	11	8
Aanya Nathwani	2	11		11	4	11	11	11	11
Devashri Moodley		11	1		3	4	6	11	11
Ruth Devapragasam	1	11	11	11		11	11	11	11
Antonella Naumova		11	4	11	4		7	11	11
Emily Nielsen	3	11	8	11	10	11		11	11
Gemma Downes		9	4	10	2	2	3		3
Annabelle Atkins		11	4	9	1	1	9	11	

With a three year age gap to cope with, those at the bottom of this group should feel proud that they have developed to the point that are far too strong for the group below. Things were close at the top. Had Emily got that final point against Ruth, when the score was 10-10, she would have won a medal.



Aanya Nathwani & Ruth Devapragasam

Swifts graded singles tournament

GIRLS' C GRADE

Group A									
Player	Pos	Alice Sutton	Rebecca Sproston	Neeve Galvin	Elena Koutas	Lucy Doran	Aimee Christian	Amy Chapman	Holly Cullen
Alice Sutton			15	13	12	15	12	15	15
Rebecca Sproston		11		13	15	15	12	12	15
Neeve Galvin		15	15		13	15	14	13	6
Elena Koutas	1	15	11	15		15	15	15	15
Lucy Doran		11	8	10	7		6	11	9
Aimee Christian	3	15	15	15	10	15		4	15
Amy Chapman	2	9	15	15	9	15	15		15
Holly Cullen		8	7	15	4	15	7	11	

This was another close group and nobody won all their games; we had to resolve a two-way tie for the silver medal and recent recruit Amy overcame a three-year age difference to finish second as the youngest player.



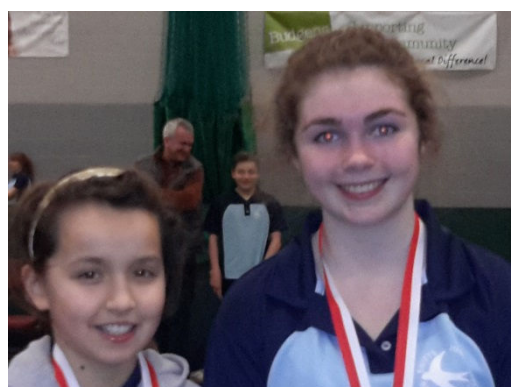
Amy Chapman & Elena Koutas

Swifts graded singles tournament

GIRLS' B GRADE

Group A									
Player	Pos	Emily Chapman	Jessica Mallett	Helen Sproston	Imogen Galvin	Jenna Biddle	Serena Farrelly	Lucy Bezants	Syan Wombwell
Emily Chapman			12	11	5	8	7	12	8
Jessica Mallett	1	15		15	13	15	15	15	15
Helen Sproston		15	11		12	12	7	10	15
Imogen Galvin	3	15	15	15		15	13	15	14
Jenna Biddle		15	12	15	10		15	13	15
Serena Farrelly	2	15	9	15	15	13		15	15
Lucy Bezants		15	7	15	4	15	6		11
Syan Wombwell		15	9	10	15	11	7	15	

We felt this was a very difficult group in which to predict a winner, and so it proved. The last-placed player had a very close contest against the eventual winner and the top three were separated by very small margins, with a tie-break needed for the silver medal. Imogen, who missed out on the medal, will rue not getting her match point against Syan as it cost her the gold medal.



Serena Farrelly & Jess Mallett

Swifts graded singles tournament

GIRLS' A GRADE							
Group A							
Player	Pos	Jodie Teale	Lucy Sharp	Holly Weston	Polly Thisdell	Stephanie Pipe	Alice Brown
Jodie Teale	3		21	13	21	13	21
Lucy Sharp		10		13	11	7	21
Holly Weston	2	21	21		10	16	21
Polly Thisdell	4	12	21	21		7	21
Stephanie Pipe	1	21	21	21	21		21
Alice Brown		8	10	2	18	2	

With two former winners in the contest this was always going to be an intriguing and close contest. Although Stephanie regained her crown fairly comfortably the race for the silver medal was extremely close and the rules and calculator had to be dusted off once more, to resolve another three-way tie.



Stephanie Pipe & Holly Weston