

**ECBA Champion of Champions 2014**  
**Wolsingham , County Durham : 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> June**

**Pairs Report**

The representatives for Hertfordshire were;

Pairs: Marilyn & Pete Cook

**Session 1**

The first game for Herts. was a match against Essex. The game was close throughout and we managed to establish a small lead with a couple of ends to play, unfortunately Essex managed to win the game with their last wood on the last end and take the victory 7-6

Position	Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Agst	Points
1	Sunderland	1	1	0	0	14	5	2
2	Suffolk	1	1	0	0	12	4	2
3	Durham	1	1	0	0	11	3	2
4	Essex	1	1	0	0	7	6	2
5	Bedfordshire	1	0	1	0	9	9	1
6	Norfolk	1	0	1	0	9	9	1
7	Hertfordshire	1	0	0	1	6	7	0
8	Cambridgeshire	1	0	0	1	5	14	0
9	South Tyneside	1	0	0	1	4	12	0
10	Northumberland	1	0	0	1	3	11	0

**Session 2**

A slow start in the second match against Suffolk left us 4-1 behind after the first 3 ends. However, an improved performance over the second part of the game and we managed to secure victory on the last end 7-6.

Two very close games to start the weekend, these results and the closeness of the league table below was already a clear indication of how the discipline would be all weekend.

Position	Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Agst	Points
1	Durham	2	1	1	0	19	11	3
2	Norfolk	2	1	1	0	18	14	3
3	Bedfordshire	2	1	1	0	17	16	3
4	Sunderland	2	1	0	1	19	14	2
5	Suffolk	2	1	0	1	18	11	2
6	Essex	2	1	0	1	14	14	2
7	Hertfordshire	2	1	0	1	13	13	2
8	Cambridgeshire	2	0	1	1	13	22	1
9	South Tyneside	2	0	1	1	11	19	1
10	Northumberland	2	0	1	1	10	18	1

### Session 3

Next up for Herts. was bottom placed Northumberland and a chance to build on their win over Suffolk. Another slow start and Herts. found themselves 4-0 down after 2 ends. In a similar story to the previous match we got stronger as the game went on and managed to not drop anymore shots over the last 7 ends to secure a 12-4 victory.

After three sessions we sat in 3<sup>rd</sup> place, incredibly just 1 point separated 1<sup>st</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> place.

Position	Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Agst	Points
1	Suffolk	3	2	0	1	32	17	4
2	Sunderland	3	2	0	1	30	20	4
3	Hertfordshire	3	2	0	1	25	17	4
4	Essex	3	2	0	1	20	19	4
5	Durham	3	1	1	1	25	22	3
6	Norfolk	3	1	1	1	23	20	3
7	Bedfordshire	3	1	1	1	23	30	3
8	Cambridgeshire	3	1	1	1	22	30	3
9	South Tyneside	3	0	1	2	19	28	1
10	Northumberland	3	0	1	2	14	30	1

### Session 4

Next up for Herts. was a match with the defending champions Cambridgeshire. A fortunate bowl on the first end from the Cambs. skip saw him wick off a short bowl to pick up the jack and take 4 shots on the first end. Herts. were always from that point chasing the game, they needed 4 shots on the final end to secure a draw but could only pick up a single and lost the match 9-6.

This result dropped us down to 6<sup>th</sup> place but still just 2 points separated the top 7 teams.

Position	Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Agst	Points
1	Sunderland	4	3	0	1	39	26	6
2	Suffolk	4	3	0	1	38	22	6
3	Durham	4	2	1	1	35	26	5
4	Cambridgeshire	4	2	1	1	31	36	5
5	Bedfordshire	4	1	2	1	32	39	4
6	Hertfordshire	4	2	0	2	31	26	4
7	Essex	4	2	0	2	26	28	4
8	Norfolk	4	1	1	2	28	26	3
9	Northumberland	4	0	2	2	23	39	2
10	South Tyneside	4	0	1	3	23	38	1

### Session 5

The final session of the day and Durham were the opponents. Herts. knew if they wanted to stand a realistic chance on Sunday they would have to win this game. Unfortunately they never really got in to the match and their worst performance of the weekend saw them suffer a 9-4 defeat.

Overnight we sat in 7<sup>th</sup> place, 4 points off of the lead. Just 1 point separated the top four teams so it was all to play for on Sunday.

Position	Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Agst	Points
1	Suffolk	5	4	0	1	48	25	8
2	Sunderland	5	4	0	1	47	33	8
3	Durham	5	3	1	1	44	30	7
4	Cambridgeshire	5	3	1	1	37	41	7
5	Norfolk	5	2	1	2	38	35	5
6	Bedfordshire	5	1	2	2	37	45	4
7	Hertfordshire	5	2	0	3	35	35	4
8	Essex	5	2	0	3	29	38	4
9	Northumberland	5	0	2	3	32	49	2
10	South Tyneside	5	0	1	4	30	46	1

### Session 6

We started off Sundays play with a match against South Tyneside, a solid performance and a win of 8-4 was secured.

This moved us up into 5<sup>th</sup> place. Sunderland took the lead as they secured a win against the overnight leaders Suffolk.

Position	Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Agst	Points
1	Sunderland	6	5	0	1	57	39	10
2	Durham	6	4	1	1	55	36	9
3	Cambridgeshire	6	4	1	1	48	46	9
4	Suffolk	6	4	0	2	54	35	8
5	Hertfordshire	6	3	0	3	43	39	6
6	Norfolk	6	2	1	3	43	46	5
7	Bedfordshire	6	1	2	3	43	56	4
8	Northumberland	6	1	2	3	40	55	4
9	Essex	6	2	0	4	35	46	4
10	South Tyneside	6	0	1	5	34	54	1

### Session 7

Next up was a difficult match against the leaders Sunderland. In arguably their best performance of the weekend the Herts. pair controlled the match and managed to secure an impressive 8-3 win.

The victory kept them in 5<sup>th</sup> place but they did make up some ground on the teams above them. Although not mimetically impossible (3 points behind with two games to play) the title was highly unlikely as Herts. last two games were against teams below them so they could not take any points off of their title rivals.

Durham held a 1 point advantage over Suffolk & Sunderland with two games to play.

Position	Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Agst	Points
1	Durham	7	5	1	1	65	42	11
2	Suffolk	7	5	0	2	69	36	10
3	Sunderland	7	5	0	2	60	47	10
4	Cambridgeshire	7	4	1	2	53	56	9
5	Hertfordshire	7	4	0	3	51	42	8
6	Essex	7	3	0	4	45	51	6
7	Bedfordshire	7	1	3	3	52	65	5
8	Norfolk	7	2	1	4	49	56	5
9	Northumberland	7	1	2	4	41	70	4
10	South Tyneside	7	0	2	5	43	63	2

### **Session 8**

The 8<sup>th</sup> session and a match against Bedfordshire for the Herts. pair. A game in which they started strongly and never really let up not allowing their opponents settle we come away with a good 10-2 victory.

Unfortunately Durham's win over Essex meant that the title was now beyond Hertfordshire. Although they could still finish as high as 2<sup>nd</sup> with a win in their final match. Suffolk would meet Durham in the final match for a straight shootout for the title.

Position	Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Agst	Points
1	Durham	8	6	1	1	74	46	13
2	Suffolk	8	6	0	2	79	38	12
3	Sunderland	8	5	0	3	65	56	10
4	Hertfordshire	8	5	0	3	61	44	10
5	Cambridgeshire	8	4	1	3	55	66	9
6	Norfolk	8	3	1	4	62	59	7
7	Northumberland	8	2	2	4	50	75	6
8	Essex	8	3	0	5	49	60	6
9	Bedfordshire	8	1	3	4	54	75	5
10	South Tyneside	8	0	2	6	46	76	2

### **Session 9 (final session)**

The final match of the weekend would be against Norfolk. In a tight low scoring game Herts managed to come out on top with a 6-3 win. A great final day for the Hertfordshire pair as they managed to win all four of their games during Sundays play. Unfortunately they lost three of their five games on Saturday and left themselves with too much to do.

They ended up finishing in 4<sup>th</sup> place (level on points with 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>) on 12 points after winning six of their nine games.

The final table is below;

Durham took the title by defeating Suffolk in the winner takes all last game.

Congratulations to John Leonard (Jr) and John Leonard (Sr) of Durham.

<b>Position</b>	<b>Team</b>	<b>Played</b>	<b>Won</b>	<b>Drawn</b>	<b>Lost</b>	<b>For</b>	<b>Agst</b>	<b>Points</b>
1	Durham	9	7	1	1	82	52	15
2	Suffolk	9	6	0	3	85	46	12
3	Sunderland	9	6	0	3	75	61	12
4	Hertfordshire	9	6	0	3	67	47	12
5	Cambridgeshire	9	5	1	3	64	73	11
6	Norfolk	9	3	1	5	65	65	7
7	Northumberland	9	2	2	5	57	84	6
8	Essex	9	3	0	6	54	68	6
9	Bedfordshire	9	1	3	5	59	85	5
10	South Tyneside	9	1	2	6	54	81	4