

ECBA Champion of Champions 2015
Wolsingham , County Durham : 6th & 7th June

Fours Report

The representatives for Hertfordshire over the weekend were;

Thomas Ellis, Andy Cobbold, Sandra Gammage & Jason Ellis

Session 1

A tough opener for our 4's as they face defending champions Cambridgeshire. They got off to a slow start and fell behind early in the match. Whilst they got better as the game went on they were unable to claw back the deficit after a slow start and went down to a narrow defeat 8-6.

Norfolk lead the way after the first session with a convincing 15-8 win over Beds.

Position	Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Agst	Points
1	Norfolk	1	1	0	0	15	8	2
2	Sunderland	1	1	0	0	11	6	2
3	Essex	1	1	0	0	10	4	2
4	Cambridgeshire	1	1	0	0	8	6	2
5	Bedfordshire	1	0	0	1	8	15	0
6	Hertfordshire	1	0	0	1	6	8	0
7	Northumberland	1	0	0	1	6	11	0
8	Durham	1	0	0	1	4	10	0
9	Suffolk	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Session 2

Another tricky looking match for our team as they faced an experience Durham four. A better performance from start to finish as they eased away to a 10-3 win. Other results also largely went our way as a lot of the teams who had won their first game were unable to win their second.

Only Cambs. (2/2), Suffolk (1/1) and Essex (1/1) had unbeaten starts.

Position	Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Agst	Points
1	Cambridgeshire	2	2	0	0	17	13	4
2	Norfolk	2	1	0	1	22	17	2
3	Hertfordshire	2	1	0	1	16	11	2
4	Northumberland	2	1	0	1	16	18	2
5	Sunderland	2	1	0	1	16	19	2
6	Suffolk	1	1	0	0	13	5	2
7	Essex	1	1	0	0	10	4	2
8	Bedfordshire	2	0	0	2	15	25	0
9	Durham	2	0	0	2	7	20	0

Session 3

Another important match for our 4's as they face one of the three unbeaten sides in Essex. Another solid performance and the game was largely controlled from start to finish. They never got very far in front of their opponents but maintained a steady lead and eventually won the match 10-5.

After the loss in the first game the table was looking encouraging as we sat in 2nd place. Cambs and Suffolk won again to maintain their unbeaten starts.

Position	Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Agst	Points
1	Cambridgeshire	3	3	0	0	27	18	6
2	Hertfordshire	3	2	0	1	26	16	4
3	Suffolk	2	2	0	0	24	14	4
4	Norfolk	3	1	0	2	26	23	2
5	Northumberland	3	1	0	2	21	28	2
6	Sunderland	2	1	0	1	16	19	2
7	Essex	2	1	0	1	15	14	2
8	Durham	3	1	0	2	13	24	2
9	Bedfordshire	3	0	0	3	24	36	0

Session 4

This was the 4's sit out session. Whilst they were not in action it was an important one for them as there two closest challengers early on met in this session. Our guys were hoping for a Suffolk win to keep them in close proximity to the leaders. It looked like they were going to win too as they lead 9-4 playing the final end. However, Cambs showed why they are defending champions and scored 5 shots on the final end to secure an unlikely 9-9 draw.

We slipped to 5th place but had some games in hand over some of the teams above us.

Position	Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Agst	Points
1	Cambridgeshire	4	3	1	0	36	27	7
2	Suffolk	3	2	1	0	33	23	5
3	Northumberland	4	2	0	2	36	29	4
4	Sunderland	3	2	0	1	27	24	4
5	Hertfordshire	3	2	0	1	26	16	4
6	Essex	3	2	0	1	22	19	4
7	Norfolk	4	1	0	3	31	30	2
8	Durham	4	1	0	3	14	39	2
9	Bedfordshire	4	0	0	4	29	47	0

Session 5

The final session of the day and a match they would need to win to stay on contention on Sunday. They were up against a Norfolk team who had only won a single game from their first four matches. In a tight game the 4's trailed 6-4 going into the final end. Holding the one shot they were attempting to secure more but were unable to do so and lost the game 6-5.

Cambs. secured their 5th straight win and now looked in a very strong position to defend their title.

Our team had slipped to 6th place over night and trailed the leaders by a full five points (although with a game in hand). They would have to win all four games on Sunday to stand any real chance of winning the title.

Position	Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Agst	Points
1	Cambridgeshire	5	4	1	0	46	35	9
2	Northumberland	5	3	0	2	43	34	6
3	Suffolk	4	2	1	1	37	29	5
4	Norfolk	5	2	0	3	37	35	4
5	Sunderland	4	2	0	2	35	34	4
6	Hertfordshire	4	2	0	2	31	22	4
7	Essex	4	2	0	2	27	26	4
8	Durham	5	2	0	3	20	43	4
9	Bedfordshire	4	0	0	4	29	47	0

Session 6

The first session of Sunday morning saw our team get off to a confident start as they controlled the match from start to finish and ended with a comfortable 11-4 win over Borthumberland who had sat in 2nd place over night.

Cambridgeshire increased their lead at the top to five points with an 8-4 win over pointless Bedfordshire. They needed to just win either of their last two games to secure the title.

Position	Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Agst	Points
1	Cambridgeshire	6	5	1	0	54	39	11
2	Northumberland	6	3	0	3	47	45	6
3	Sunderland	5	3	0	2	44	40	6
4	Hertfordshire	5	3	0	2	42	26	6
5	Essex	5	3	0	2	37	33	6
6	Suffolk	5	2	1	2	44	39	5
7	Norfolk	5	2	0	3	37	35	4
8	Durham	6	2	0	4	26	52	4
9	Bedfordshire	5	0	0	5	33	55	0

Session 7

The leaders sat this one out so it was a chance for other teams to close the gap. Unfortunately our team could not come out on top in a tight match with Suffolk, although they did not lose either. A 6-6 draw in reality brought an end to both teams outside chance of winning the title.

Northumberland and Essex closed the gap to three points, although Northumberland only had one game left to play so could not catch the leaders. Essex would face Cambridgeshire in the final match of the competition. They would need a favour from Durham who the leaders faced next.

Position	Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Agst	Points
1	Cambridgeshire	6	5	1	0	54	39	11
2	Northumberland	7	4	0	3	58	50	8
3	Essex	6	4	0	2	52	41	8
4	Hertfordshire	6	3	1	2	48	32	7
5	Sunderland	6	3	0	3	52	55	6
6	Suffolk	6	2	2	2	50	45	6
7	Durham	7	3	0	4	38	61	6
8	Norfolk	6	2	0	4	42	46	4
9	Bedfordshire	6	0	0	6	42	67	0

Session 8

In a close battle with Sunderland our team managed to just come out on top with a 6-4 win. With teams above them losing that jumped us up the table from 4th to 2nd. Although the title was now out of reach as Cambridgeshire secured an 8-8 draw with Durham which was enough to guarantee them a title with a match to play as Essex lost to bottom of the table Bedfordshire.

Position	Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Agst	Points
1	Cambridgeshire	7	5	2	0	62	47	12
2	Hertfordshire	7	4	1	2	54	36	9
3	Suffolk	7	3	2	2	62	46	8
4	Northumberland	7	4	0	3	58	50	8
5	Essex	7	4	0	3	58	50	8
6	Durham	8	3	1	4	46	69	7
7	Sunderland	7	3	0	4	56	61	6
8	Norfolk	7	2	0	5	43	58	4
9	Bedfordshire	7	1	0	6	51	73	2

Session 9

The tournament would conclude for our team with a match against Bedfordshire. A win would secure 2nd place. In a tight match the team held their nerve to secure a 7-4 win and with in 2nd place.

With the title already secured Cambridgeshire lost their first match of the weekend as they were beaten 13-8 by Essex. It was a case of what might have been for Essex. With a superior shots advantage if they had beaten Bedfordshire in the penultimate game they could have taken the title.

Position	Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Agst	Points
1	Cambridgeshire	8	5	2	1	70	60	12
2	Hertfordshire	8	5	1	2	61	40	11
3	Essex	8	5	0	3	71	58	10
4	Suffolk	8	4	2	2	68	51	10
5	Sunderland	8	4	0	4	65	69	8
6	Northumberland	8	4	0	4	63	56	8
7	Durham	8	3	1	4	51	73	7
8	Norfolk	8	2	0	6	55	72	4
9	Bedfordshire	8	1	0	7	55	80	2

The final table looked like a close event, but in reality the Cambridgeshire team always looked in control. Despite only picking up 3 points from their 3 matches on Sunday they had built enough of a lead on the Saturday to take the title.

Winners : Beryl Wicks, Barry Giddens, Maureen Giddens & Colin Wicks (Cambridgeshire)

Triples Report

The representatives for Hertfordshire over the weekend were;

Ian Carter, Jonathon Carter & David Danby

Session 1

A match with Cambridgeshire first for our triple. They got off to a slow start and fell behind early. However, they improved as the game went on and managed to turn round a game that they looked like they were going to lose into a win 9-5.

Durham were the early leaders on shots after the first round of games.

Position	Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Agst	Points
1	Durham	1	1	0	0	13	5	2
2	Sunderland	1	1	0	0	9	3	2
3	Hertfordshire	1	1	0	0	9	5	2
4	Bedfordshire	1	1	0	0	6	5	2
5	Norfolk	1	0	0	1	5	6	0
6	Cambridgeshire	1	0	0	1	5	9	0
7	Essex	1	0	0	1	5	13	0
8	Northumberland	1	0	0	1	3	9	0
9	Suffolk	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Session 2

The experienced and skilful Durham triple were up next for our triple. A fantastic performance saw us dominate the game from start to finish. The final score of 14-7 did not flatter us in the slightest.

Two fantastic wins to start the competition and the boys had got themselves into contention early on to have a good run at the title. They lead on shots after two matches from Sunderland and Bedfordshire who had followed up their wins in the first session with another win.

Position	Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Agst	Points
1	Hertfordshire	2	2	0	0	23	12	4
2	Sunderland	2	2	0	0	17	9	4
3	Bedfordshire	2	2	0	0	13	8	4
4	Durham	2	1	0	1	20	19	2
5	Cambridgeshire	2	1	0	1	16	12	2
6	Norfolk	2	0	0	2	8	17	0
7	Suffolk	1	0	0	1	6	8	0
8	Northumberland	2	0	0	2	6	16	0
9	Essex	1	0	0	1	5	13	0

Session 3

Next up the guys would be looking for revenge on the Essex triple who had beaten them at the Eastern Counties event . However, a poor performance and we never got into the game the 10-5 defeat was a true reflection on how the game played out.

Despite that defeat we stayed in first position due to Sunderland not playing and Bedfordshire being beaten by Suffolk.

Position	Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Agst	Points
1	Hertfordshire	3	2	0	1	28	22	4
2	Bedfordshire	3	2	0	1	19	18	4
3	Sunderland	2	2	0	0	17	9	4
4	Durham	3	1	1	1	30	29	3
5	Cambridgeshire	3	1	0	2	23	25	2
6	Northumberland	3	1	0	2	19	23	2
7	Suffolk	2	1	0	1	16	14	2
8	Essex	2	1	0	1	15	18	2
9	Norfolk	3	0	1	2	18	27	1

Session 4

This was the sit out session for the team, so it was likely that top spot would be lost. Sunderland maintained their perfect start with a narrow 7-6 win over Bedfordshire to move to the top of the table.

Durham also moved ahead of our team with a 7-6 win over Northumberland. Still with four session played, 3rd spot and just two points behind the leaders was a good start.

Position	Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Agst	Points
1	Sunderland	3	3	0	0	24	15	6
2	Durham	4	2	1	1	37	35	5
3	Hertfordshire	3	2	0	1	28	22	4
4	Essex	3	2	0	1	26	28	4
5	Bedfordshire	4	2	0	2	25	25	4
6	Suffolk	3	2	0	1	23	20	4
7	Cambridgeshire	4	1	0	3	29	32	2
8	Northumberland	4	1	0	3	25	30	2
9	Norfolk	4	0	1	3	28	38	1

Session 5

The final session of the day and an important one. The guys needed to respond from the Essex defeat with a win and keep themselves in contention for Sunday.

They were just unable to get the better of the experienced Norfolk triple, but also avoided defeat as a 6-6 draw was played out. Not the result they were looking for moving into Sunday's play. However, Sunderland lost narrowly to Cambridgeshire which meant that we stayed in 3rd place and were just the one point behind Sunderland in 2nd. Durham had moved to the top a further point clear but had played a game more.

Position	Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Agst	Points
1	Durham	5	3	1	1	45	41	7
2	Sunderland	4	3	0	1	31	23	6
3	Hertfordshire	4	2	1	1	34	28	5
4	Cambridgeshire	5	2	0	3	37	39	4
5	Northumberland	5	2	0	3	31	33	4
6	Suffolk	4	2	0	2	29	28	4
7	Essex	4	2	0	2	29	34	4
8	Bedfordshire	4	2	0	2	25	25	4
9	Norfolk	5	0	2	3	34	44	2

Session 6

The first session of Sunday would see a chance for our boys to make up ground on the leaders as they faced each other.

A convincing 17-3 over the Northumberland triple not only made up points but also gave them what could turn out to be a significant 14 shot advantage over Sunderland. Durham's narrow 6-5 defeat to Sunderland all but ended their hopes of taking the title. Sunderland now held a single point lead at the top. Essex of the chasing pack were the only other team with a realistic chance of catching the leaders.

Position	Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Agst	Points
1	Sunderland	5	4	0	1	37	28	8
2	Hertfordshire	5	3	1	1	51	31	7
3	Durham	6	3	1	2	50	47	7
4	Cambridgeshire	6	3	0	3	46	44	6
5	Essex	5	3	0	2	38	41	6
6	Suffolk	5	2	0	3	36	37	4
7	Northumberland	6	2	0	4	34	50	4
8	Bedfordshire	5	2	0	3	30	34	4
9	Norfolk	5	0	2	3	34	44	2

Session 7

Next up were Suffolk who were having a mixed weekend having only won two of their five matches.

A close game but Hertfordshire were just able to do enough and secure a vital 11-6 win. Sunderland maintained their single point lead with an 11-7 win over Essex. Durham kept alive their feint hopes of the title with a 9-7 win over Bedfordshire, who had lost four games in a row after winning the first two.

Position	Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Agst	Points
1	Sunderland	6	5	0	1	48	35	10
2	Hertfordshire	6	4	1	1	62	37	9
3	Durham	7	4	1	2	59	54	9
4	Cambridgeshire	6	3	0	3	46	44	6
5	Essex	6	3	0	3	45	52	6
6	Northumberland	7	2	1	4	42	58	5
7	Suffolk	6	2	0	4	42	48	4
8	Bedfordshire	6	2	0	4	37	43	4
9	Norfolk	6	0	3	3	42	52	3

Session 8

The penultimate session of the weekend and one that would go a very long way to deciding the winners as the top two meet. A win for Sunderland would secure them the title with a game to spare. A win for Hertfordshire would make them the strong favourites going into the last round of games as they would hold a 1 point lead and a significant shots advantage.

An absolutely fantastic performance saw the team dominate their opponents from start to finish and their 14-4 win was thoroughly deserved. Going into the final round of games a point was probably all that was needed to secure their first English title as they held a 24 shot advantage. No other side could now catch the leading two and Sunderland would have to hope for a slip up.

Position	Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Agst	Points
1	Hertfordshire	7	5	1	1	76	41	11
2	Sunderland	7	5	0	2	52	49	10
3	Durham	8	4	1	3	65	61	9
4	Essex	7	4	0	3	55	61	8
5	Cambridgeshire	7	4	0	3	53	50	8
6	Norfolk	7	1	3	3	50	59	5
7	Northumberland	7	2	1	4	42	58	5
8	Suffolk	7	2	0	5	49	56	4
9	Bedfordshire	7	2	0	5	46	53	4

Session 9

Bedfordshire would be the opposition in the final game for our triple. After starting strong and winning their first two games Bedfordshire had lost five in a row. A victory would not be easy though as the fact that they were only negative 7 in shots showed that a lot of those defeats had been by narrow margins.

A slow start saw the guys fall behind early, although a big score on the 3rd end should have settled their nerves as it put them into the lead. However, as the game went on they started to struggle and Bedfordshire built up a lead that they would not relinquish. With an end still to play Hertfordshire were not going to get anything from the game. Eyes all now turned to the Sunderland game. Norfolk was their opposition and the match was tight as Sunderland held a narrow 8-7 lead playing the last end. Two fantastic bowls from the Norfolk skip left them laying match lie (Championship lie for Hertfordshire). The Sunderland skip trying to take shot went through the gap and the end and match was lost 9-8. The Hertfordshire triple could breathe a sigh of relief as they could complete their final end knowing they were the champions, they won the last end but lost the game 11-6.

Hertfordshire take the title by a single point. Cambridgeshire's 8-5 win over Essex was enough from them to pip Sunderland to 2nd place.

Position	Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Agst	Points
1	Hertfordshire	8	5	1	2	82	52	11
2	Cambridgeshire	8	5	0	3	61	55	10
3	Sunderland	8	5	0	3	60	58	10
4	Durham	8	4	1	3	65	61	9
5	Essex	8	4	0	4	60	69	8
6	Norfolk	8	2	3	3	59	67	7
7	Bedfordshire	8	3	0	5	57	59	6
8	Suffolk	8	3	0	5	57	63	6
9	Northumberland	8	2	1	5	49	66	5

Winners: Jonathon Carter , Ian Carter and David Danby (Hertfordshire)

Pairs Report

The representatives for Hertfordshire over the weekend were;

Rebecca Hearn & Craig Hearn

Session 1

First up for the Herts pair was a match with the Northumberland pair. A sluggish start saw Rebecca and Craig struggle to get away from their opponents. In a close game it ended with an 8-8 draw. Not the start they were looking for

Cambridgeshire, Suffolk and Durham were the early pace setters after winning their first matches.

Position	Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Agst	Points
1	Cambridgeshire	1	1	0	0	15	4	2
2	Suffolk	1	1	0	0	8	4	2
3	Durham	1	1	0	0	8	5	2
4	Hertfordshire	1	0	1	0	8	8	1
5	Northumberland	1	0	1	0	8	8	1
6	Sunderland	1	0	0	1	5	8	0
7	Essex	1	0	0	1	4	8	0
8	Bedfordshire	1	0	0	1	4	15	0
9	Norfolk	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Session 2

Next up was a tough looking fixture as they would have to play Suffolk who had won their first game and also recently won the ECCBA champion of champions.

Playing below their best it was a struggle throughout and they never really looked like winning the game, the final score an 11-5 loss. Bec and Craig would not be able to afford too many (if any) more slip ups if they wanted to contend for the title. Durham maintained their 100% start along with Suffolk.

Position	Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Agst	Points
1	Durham	2	2	0	0	20	8	4
2	Suffolk	2	2	0	0	19	9	4
3	Northumberland	2	1	1	0	16	15	3
4	Cambridgeshire	1	1	0	0	15	4	2
5	Sunderland	2	1	0	1	12	13	2
6	Hertfordshire	2	0	1	1	13	19	1
7	Essex	2	0	0	2	9	15	0
8	Norfolk	1	0	0	1	7	8	0
9	Bedfordshire	2	0	0	2	7	27	0

Session 3

The table was looking a lot better after the 3rd round of games. A first win of the weekend was secured with a comfortable 11-4 win over Sunderland. Suffolk were well beaten (13-5) by Norfolk and Durham also lost their first game 10-5 to Cambridgeshire (who had won 2/2).

Bedfordshire were the only team that were not two points or less away from the leaders. We were nicely placed in 4th just a point behind the leaders (although having played a game more)

Position	Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Agst	Points
1	Cambridgeshire	2	2	0	0	25	9	4
2	Durham	3	2	0	1	25	18	4
3	Suffolk	3	2	0	1	24	22	4
4	Hertfordshire	3	1	1	1	24	23	3
5	Northumberland	2	1	1	0	16	15	3
6	Essex	3	1	0	2	22	18	2
7	Norfolk	2	1	0	1	20	13	2
8	Sunderland	3	1	0	2	16	24	2
9	Bedfordshire	3	0	0	3	10	40	0

Session 4

Back to back wins as Bedfordshire were comfortably beaten 12-3, this moved Bec & Craig up to 2nd place in the table. Cambridgeshire maintained their 100% start with their 3rd straight win. Suffolk were held by Northumberland and Durham were not in action

The table was still very close with just two points separating 1st to 6th

Position	Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Agst	Points
1	Cambridgeshire	3	3	0	0	36	9	6
2	Hertfordshire	4	2	1	1	36	26	5
3	Suffolk	4	2	1	1	31	29	5
4	Durham	3	2	0	1	25	18	4
5	Sunderland	4	2	0	2	24	30	4
6	Northumberland	3	1	2	0	23	22	4
7	Norfolk	3	1	0	2	26	21	2
8	Essex	4	1	0	3	22	29	2
9	Bedfordshire	4	0	0	4	13	52	0

Session 5

The final session of the day and a vital one as we played the leaders Cambridgeshire. A win would put Bec & Craig in a great position going into Sunday's games.

The win never really looked in doubt as they took an early lead and added to it through the game. The final score was 12-3, a third straight win and top spot in the table over night. A good effort as after two games played it was not looking very promising

The table was still very tight with any of the top seven all in with a realistic chance of taking the title.

Position	Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Agst	Points
1	Hertfordshire	5	3	1	1	48	29	7
2	Cambridgeshire	4	3	0	1	39	21	6
3	Durham	4	3	0	1	35	26	6
4	Suffolk	4	2	1	1	31	29	5
5	Sunderland	5	2	1	2	30	36	5
6	Northumberland	4	1	3	0	29	28	5
7	Norfolk	4	2	0	2	37	27	4
8	Essex	5	1	0	4	30	39	2
9	Bedfordshire	5	0	0	5	19	63	0

Session 6

The first session on Sunday was an important one (as they all would be now) as we played 3rd placed Durham.

Another impressive performance and another good win, although their opponents made them work hard for it and the final score was 8-5. The session turned out to be even better for Craig & Bec as all of their nearest challenges slipped up. Cambs lost 8-5 to Norfolk and Suffolk were well beaten by Sunderland.

A two point advantage at the top of the table now, although several of the teams below them had a game in hand

Position	Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Agst	Points
1	Hertfordshire	6	4	1	1	56	34	9
2	Sunderland	6	3	1	2	43	41	7
3	Northumberland	5	2	3	0	36	34	7
4	Norfolk	5	3	0	2	45	32	6
5	Cambridgeshire	5	3	0	2	44	29	6
6	Durham	5	3	0	2	40	34	6
7	Suffolk	5	2	1	2	36	42	5
8	Essex	5	1	0	4	30	39	2
9	Bedfordshire	6	0	0	6	25	70	0

Session 7

A fantastic bowl by Craig on the last end of the game was enough to secure a narrow 6-4 win over Essex.

A three point lead had been opened up, although everybody had a game in hand other than bottom of the table Bedfordshire. However, if results went their way in the 8th session, which they sit out, then the title might be secured with game to spare. Which after the first two matches on Saturday seemed very unlikely

Position	Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Agst	Points
1	Hertfordshire	7	5	1	1	62	38	11
2	Cambridgeshire	6	4	0	2	51	35	8
3	Durham	6	4	0	2	47	39	8
4	Suffolk	6	3	1	2	52	45	7
5	Sunderland	6	3	1	2	43	41	7
6	Northumberland	6	2	3	1	42	41	7
7	Norfolk	6	3	0	3	50	39	6
8	Essex	6	1	0	5	34	45	2
9	Bedfordshire	7	0	0	7	28	86	0

Session 8

No game for Bec & Craig in this session it would be a case of watching the other games and hoping results went their way.

2nd placed Cambs were beaten by 4th place Suffolk and were now out of the running. 3rd placed Durham were beaten by 6th place Northumberland and were now also out of the running. Sunderland the only other team with a mathematical chance of winning were held to a draw by previously pointless Bedfordshire.

It would seem that the results had largely gone our way. Suffolk and Northumberland were two points behind going into the final round of matches. We held a 10 shot advantage over Northumberland and a 4 shot advantage over Suffolk. A draw would guarantee the title, even a defeat would be enough as long as the other two teams did not score enough shots

Position	Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Agst	Points
1	Hertfordshire	7	5	1	1	62	38	11
2	Suffolk	7	4	1	2	58	49	9
3	Northumberland	7	3	3	1	52	44	9
4	Cambridgeshire	7	4	0	3	55	41	8
5	Sunderland	7	3	2	2	52	50	8
6	Durham	7	4	0	3	50	49	8
7	Norfolk	7	3	1	3	55	44	7
8	Essex	7	1	1	5	39	50	3

9	Bedfordshire	8	0	1	7	37	95	1
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Session 9

Northumberland finished their game first and lost a close game to Essex 7-6 so were now out of the running. Suffolk had opened up a commanding lead over Durham, so it looked like a draw was needed to secure the title. Bec & Craig trailed 7-5 going into the final end, they were unable to secure the two shots that they needed and lost the game 9-5. And with it the title as Suffolk had already accumulated enough shots, their final score being 13-1.

Just four shots was the difference. A fantastic effort from the Hertfordshire pair after drawing their first game and losing the second they won five games in a row, only to just fall at the final hurdle.

Position	Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Agst	Points
1	Suffolk	8	5	1	2	71	50	11
2	Hertfordshire	8	5	1	2	67	47	11
3	Cambridgeshire	8	5	0	3	70	44	10
4	Norfolk	8	4	1	3	64	49	9
5	Northumberland	8	3	3	2	58	51	9
6	Sunderland	8	3	2	3	55	65	8
7	Durham	8	4	0	4	51	62	8
8	Essex	8	2	1	5	46	56	5
9	Bedfordshire	8	0	1	7	37	95	1

Winners : David O'Brien and Andy Pooley (Suffolk)

Singles Report

The representatives for Hertfordshire over the weekend was;

Pete Cook

Session 1

Northumberland were the first opponents of the weekend for Pete. A comfortable win was secured 11-4, however the Northumberland bowler was later taken ill and was unable to complete her games. Therefore, all of the results were void.

Suffolk, Durham and Cambridgeshire all started with wins to set the early lead.

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

Session 2

Next up for Pete was Suffolk, in a tight game there was never more than a shot or two in it. Going in to the final end the game was locked at 7-7. However, the Suffolk bowler played two great first bowls that Pete was unable to better and the match was lost 9-7

Position	Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Agst	Points
1	Suffolk	2	2	0	0	21	11	4
2	Durham	2	2	0	0	21	16	4
3	Cambridgeshire	1	1	0	0	11	3	2
4	Sunderland	2	0	1	1	15	16	1
5	Essex	2	0	1	1	9	17	1
6	Bedfordshire	2	0	0	2	9	21	0
7	Hertfordshire	1	0	0	1	7	9	0
8	Northumberland	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
9	Norfolk	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Session 3

Sunderland was the next opponents for Pete. Both players were looking for their first win of the weekend. The match was close to start with but the Sunderland bowler played more consistently and deserved his 12-6 win.

Durham and Suffolk led the way after winning all three of their matches. Pete had to win all of his remaining games to stand any real chance of taking the title.

Position	Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Agst	Points
1	Durham	3	3	0	0	33	21	6
2	Suffolk	3	3	0	0	28	14	6
3	Sunderland	3	1	1	1	27	22	3
4	Essex	3	1	1	1	17	23	3
5	Cambridgeshire	2	1	0	1	16	15	2
6	Bedfordshire	3	0	0	3	15	29	0
7	Hertfordshire	2	0	0	2	13	21	0
8	Norfolk	1	0	0	1	3	7	0
9	Northumberland	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Session 4

Bedfordshire were the next opposition, who like Pete had also struggled to find a win. A better performance and result as a 14-4 win was secured.

Durham and Suffolk both still led the way, Sunderland and Cambridgeshire were both chasing hard.

Position	Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Agst	Points
1	Durham	3	3	0	0	33	21	6
2	Suffolk	3	3	0	0	28	14	6
3	Sunderland	4	2	1	1	34	25	5
4	Cambridgeshire	3	2	0	1	26	20	4
5	Essex	4	1	1	2	22	33	3
6	Hertfordshire	3	1	0	2	27	25	2
7	Bedfordshire	4	0	0	4	19	43	0
8	Norfolk	2	0	0	2	6	14	0
9	Northumberland	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Session 5

The final session of the day and a match with Cambridgeshire. It was probably Pete's worst performance of the weekend, he never got into the game and never put his opponent under any pressure. The only think surprising about the final score (10-3) is that it was not by a larger margin.

Durham led the way overnight by two points from Cambs and Suffolk. Sunderland were probably the only other team who could potentially catch the leaders

Position	Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Agst	Points
1	Durham	4	4	0	0	42	27	8
2	Cambridgeshire	4	3	0	1	36	23	6
3	Suffolk	3	3	0	0	28	14	6
4	Sunderland	4	2	1	1	34	25	5
5	Essex	5	1	1	3	28	42	3
6	Hertfordshire	4	1	0	3	30	35	2
7	Bedfordshire	5	0	1	4	25	49	1
8	Norfolk	3	0	1	2	12	20	1
9	Northumberland	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Session 6

A tough looking game against the overnight leader Durham for Pete. He started well and built an early lead, but as was developing to be his story of the weekend he would play well for 7 or 8 ends of the match but continued to have 1 or 2 loose ends. At this level you can not afford to do so and he was punished again. This time going down to an 11-6 loss.

Durham maintained their two point lead at the top of the table

Position	Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Agst	Points
1	Durham	5	5	0	0	53	33	10
2	Cambridgeshire	5	4	0	1	46	27	8
3	Sunderland	5	3	1	1	40	29	7
4	Suffolk	4	3	0	1	32	20	6
5	Essex	5	1	1	3	28	42	3
6	Hertfordshire	5	1	0	4	36	46	2
7	Bedfordshire	5	0	1	4	25	49	1
8	Norfolk	4	0	1	3	16	30	1
9	Northumberland	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Session 7

Essex were the opponents for Pete in this session, would be another tough game as they won the ECCBA title a few weeks before. However, like Pete the Essex bowler was not having the best of weekends.

A tight game was played out and Pete had taken a two shot lead going into the last end, however he was unable to hold on to the lead as with the last bowl of the match the Essex bowler secured the two shots he needed to finish with an 8-8 draw.

Durham had extended their lead at the top to four points but the three closest teams to them all still had a game in hand.

Position	Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Agst	Points
1	Durham	6	6	0	0	64	39	12
2	Cambridgeshire	5	4	0	1	46	27	8
3	Suffolk	5	4	0	1	42	25	8
4	Sunderland	5	3	1	1	40	29	7
5	Essex	6	1	2	3	36	50	4
6	Hertfordshire	6	1	1	4	44	54	3
7	Bedfordshire	6	0	1	5	30	59	1
8	Norfolk	5	0	1	4	22	41	1
9	Northumberland	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Session 8

No match for Pete in the 8th session, which would go a long way to deciding who would win the title.

Cambs beat Suffolk 10-5 in the match that would decide who would challenge Durham in the final session. Durham were still the strong favourites as they held a 2 point and 8 shot advantage. Durham would face Suffolk and Cambs. would face Sunderland in the last round of fixtures

Position	Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Agst	Points
1	Durham	6	6	0	0	64	39	12
2	Cambridgeshire	6	5	0	1	56	32	10
3	Sunderland	6	4	1	1	50	37	9
4	Suffolk	6	4	0	2	47	35	8
5	Essex	7	1	2	4	42	58	4
6	Hertfordshire	6	1	1	4	44	54	3
7	Norfolk	6	1	1	4	30	47	3
8	Bedfordshire	7	0	1	6	38	69	1
9	Northumberland	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Session 9

Pete finished the weekend with a 9-6 win over Norfolk to finish in a disappointing 5th place.

The finish to the event was an exciting one. Cambs had won their match against Sunderland 13-7 meaning that Durham needed six shots to take the title. Unfortunately they were only able to score four as they lost the game 8-4. Durham had led pretty much from start to finish but had agonisingly been beaten by just the one shot.

Position	Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Agst	Points
1	Cambridgeshire	7	6	0	1	69	39	12
2	Durham	7	6	0	1	68	47	12
3	Suffolk	7	5	0	2	61	41	10
4	Sunderland	7	4	1	2	57	50	9
5	Hertfordshire	7	2	1	4	53	60	5
6	Essex	7	1	2	4	42	58	4
7	Norfolk	7	1	1	5	38	62	3
8	Bedfordshire	7	0	1	6	38	69	1
9	Northumberland	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Winner : Jamie Smith (Cambridgeshire)

Team

A good performance in the team even with a second place finish, 6 points behind the winners Cambridgeshire.

Position	Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Agst	Points
1	Cambridgeshire	31	21	2	8	270	198	44
2	Hertfordshire	31	17	4	10	263	199	38
3	Suffolk	31	17	3	11	257	205	37
4	Durham	31	17	2	12	235	243	36
5	Sunderland	31	16	3	12	237	242	35
6	Essex	31	12	3	16	219	241	27
7	Norfolk	31	9	5	17	216	250	23
8	Northumberland	24	9	4	11	170	173	22
9	Bedfordshire	31	4	2	25	187	303	10