

ECCBA League Fixture 1

Hertfordshire v Essex

Applecroft School, Welwyn Garden City – Sunday 25th November 2018

Our first ECCBA league fixture of the season was a home fixture against Essex. A good performance would be needed to come away with a positive result. The team chose to represent Hertfordshire was as follows;

H1	H2	H3
1. Mary Grethe 2. Margaret Forrest 3. Jack Smalley 4. Jason Ellis	1. Harry Wilson 2. Ron Hart 3. Roy Grethe 4. Ben Summerfield	1. Marilyn Cook 2. Andy Cobbold 3. Sandra Gammage 4. Neil Tuckey
H4	H5	H6
1. Emma Robinson 2. Jacqui Harris 3. Dave Smith 4. Pete Cook	1. Stuart Palmer 2. Mick Cook 3. Rebecca Hearn 4. Craig Hearn	1. Gill Barraclough 2. Aaron Langley 3. Paul Harris 4. David Danby

During the day the odd numbered teams would play at the same time and the even numbered teams would play at the same time.

Session 1

We made slow starts in all three games and were behind in the early ends. We started to slowly turn each match round, all three games remaining close into the later ends, which would be a template for the day. In the end it was the perfect start for us as H1 won their game 8-6, H3 secured a narrow 9-8 victory and the final game saw a 12-10 win for H5.

Session Score
Herts 6-0 Essex

Match Score
Herts 6-0 Essex

Session 2

The even numbered teams would now look to build on that great first session. H2 were involved in a tight low scoring match which looked like it could go either way, unfortunately they just came out on the wrong side of a 7-6 loss. H4 fell 6-2 behind after three ends when the Essex skip sliced the jack into the corner with her final wood. H4 won the next five ends to take a 7-6 lead into the final end. Unfortunately, in trying to remove the shot wood the H4 skip come off the wood and took the jack off the carpet to hand an 8-7 victory to their opponents. H6 ensured that it was not a reverse of the first session as they won a low scoring game 7-5.

Session Score
Herts 2-4 Essex

Match Score
Herts 8-4 Essex

Session 3

The third session was a repeat of the first two with all three games close throughout. H3 build an early lead but were unable to hold onto and ended up falling to a 10-7 loss. H1 looking to build on their victory in the first session were unable to do so, falling to a 6-5 loss. H5 secured an important two points in another low scoring match with a 7-5 victory.

At the half way stage we led 10-8. A little disappointing considering we were 6-0 in front after the first session. All the games had been incredibly close. Of the nine played, four had been won by a single shot, four had been won by two shots and one a colossal three shots.

Session Score
Herts 2-4 Essex

Match Score
Herts 10-8 Essex

Session 4

H2 and H6 looked like they were going to buck the trend of the day so far as they raced into healthy leads. H6 maintained their form throughout the match and eased away to a 14-2 win. H2 led 7-0 in their match, two ends later and the score was 7-7. They managed to regain their composure in the remaining ends and secured an important 10-9 win. H4 led their game just 6-2 after seven ends, consecutive three's on ends eight and nine gave them a 12-2 victory and made the win look much more comfortable than it actually was.

Session Score
Herts 6-0 Essex

Match Score
Herts 16-8 Essex

Session 5

An important fifth session coming up. Leading 16-8, we could get over the winning line in this session or Essex could get right back in to the game. H3 come up against an Essex team that played some high quality bowls in their final match. They never really got a look in and fell to a 13-2 loss. H5 were involved in another tight match, they had to battle hard to secure their third narrow win of the day, this time 7-5. H1 ensured it was a winning session for us as they secured their second win of the day with a good 10-4 win.

Reaching twenty points, we had won the match with a session to spare. Our work was not done though as we would look to extend the winning margin in the final session.

Session Score
Herts 4-2 Essex

Match Score
Herts 20-10 Essex

Session 6

Things were looking very bleak in the early-middle ends of the final session. H6 found themselves 8-0 behind, H2 found themselves 7-3 behind and H4 were trailing 7-2.

H6 suddenly found their form. They scored fourteen unanswered shots in the remainder of the game to secure a great 14-8 win. H2 managed to get themselves in with a chance playing the final end, they were unable to pick up the three shots they needed to force a

draw and lost 7-6. H4 picked up two shots on the 7th end and a single on the 8th end to get back to 5-7 playing the final end. Two good draw shots from the H4 skip secured three on the final end and an improbable 8-7 win.

Session Score
Herts 4-2 Essex

Match Result
Herts 24-12 Essex

A good performance from the team and a 24-12 win. It was a very competitive day with so many of the games ending up with narrow victories for either side. Of the 18 matches played, thirteen of them ended with a winning margin of three or less. Of those thirteen, we won eight of them and lost five. Therefore, we have to be satisfied with the final outcome as Essex could have quite easily obtained more points than they did.

The individual team performances are displayed below. Special mention for H5 and H6 who both won all three matches.

Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	SF	SA	Points
H1	3	2	0	1	23	16	4
H2	3	1	0	2	22	23	2
H3	3	1	0	2	18	31	2
H4	3	2	0	1	27	17	4
H5	3	3	0	0	26	21	6
H6	3	3	0	0	35	15	6
Total	18	12	0	6	151	123	24

The results from the first round of matches and league table are shown below.

Results

Suffolk 24-12 Cambridgeshire
Hertfordshire 24-12 Essex
Norfolk 23-13 Bedfordshire

League Table

		Pld	W	D	L	SF	SA	Pts
1	Suffolk	1	1	0	0	162	103	24
2	Hertfordshire	1	1	0	0	151	123	24
3	Norfolk	1	1	0	0	155	118	23
4	Bedfordshire	1	0	0	1	118	155	13
5	Essex	1	0	0	1	123	151	12
6	Cambridgeshire	1	0	0	1	103	162	12