

National Championships – Friday 31/10/14 – Monday 03/11/14

Potters Leisure Resort

The Hertfordshire team selected to represent us at the National Championships is detailed below;

A	B	C
1. Ian Carter	1. Thomas Ellis	1. Dave Smith
2. Lynda Coates	2. Paul Harris	2. Jacqui Harris
3. Rebecca Hearn	3. Jonathan Carter	3. Marilyn Cook
4. Jason Ellis	4. Craig Hearn	4. Pete Cook
D	E	F
1. Mike Bennett	1. Mary Cobbold	1. Alan Bull
2. Sylvia Page	2. Gill Barraclough	2. Andy Cobbold
3. Margaret Forrest	3. Vince Tamorro / Jim Forrest	3. Sandra Gammage
4. Mick Cook	4. Rob Washbrook	4. David Danby

Session 1

The weekend started off with A,B & C up against Northumberland and we could not have made a more perfect start. Although all of the scores were close all three teams all looked reasonably in control. Wins were secured for A 9-4, B 9-7 & C 8-4. A perfect 6 point start took us joint top with Sunderland after the first session.

Team	Played	Points
Sunderland	3	6
Hertfordshire	3	6
Cambridgeshire	3	4
Durham	3	4
Bedfordshire	3	2
Norfolk	3	2
Northumberland	3	0
Essex	3	0
Suffolk	0	0

Session 2

Next up it was Bedfordshire for D,E & F. Team E controlled their game from start to finish and never really looked in danger and secured a 14-5 win. Team D battled hard but were unable to come out on top of their opponents as they suffered a 10-6 loss. Team F were always behind (8-4 last end), a great last end though and a chance to secure the win but our skip just failed with their last wood but a good 8-8 draw was secured. Three points from the session and 9 out a possible 12 was an encouraging start. We sat in 3rd place in the table just a single behind the early leaders Durham & Sunderland.

Team	Played	Points
Sunderland	6	10
Durham	6	10
Hertfordshire	6	9
Cambridgeshire	6	8
Bedfordshire	6	5
Northumberland	6	2
Suffolk	3	2
Norfolk	3	2
Essex	6	0

Session 3

Sunderland were the next opponents for A,B & C. Three very close games but unfortunately only a single point was secured by A with an 8-8 draw. Team B narrowly lost 7-6 and a similar story for team C as they lost 7-4. We remained 3rd in the table despite only picking up the one point. Although not trailed the leaders by five points.

Team	Played	Points
Sunderland	9	15
Durham	9	14
Hertfordshire	9	10
Cambridgeshire	9	10
Suffolk	6	8
Norfolk	6	8
Bedfordshire	9	5
Northumberland	6	2
Essex	9	0

Session 4

The next opponents for D,E & F would be a difficult one as they faced the defending champions Suffolk. Three tight games and we could count ourselves a little unlucky to not get anything out of them. E & F both went down to 7-4 defeats and D lost 11-7. No points secured in that session and it was no surprise that we dropped to 5th in the table.

Team	Played	Points
Sunderland	12	18
Durham	12	17
Suffolk	9	14
Norfolk	9	12
Hertfordshire	12	10
Cambridgeshire	9	10

Bedfordshire	12	7
Essex	12	4
Northumberland	9	4

Session 5

Norfolk was the next opposition, who had made a good start so far. Team C were involved in a very close game and trailed 4-3 going into the last end. Trying to force the issue on the last end they ended up dropping 4 shots and lost 8-3. Team B were unfortunate again to lose by just the single shot as they lost 7-6. Team A did manage to secure a vital victory as they won their game 9-6. Just the single point from the session saw us drop another position down to 6th.

Team	Played	Points
Sunderland	15	22
Durham	15	20
Suffolk	12	17
Cambridgeshire	12	16
Norfolk	12	16
Hertfordshire	15	12
Bedfordshire	15	9
Northumberland	12	4
Essex	12	4

Session 6

Cambridgeshire next for D,E & F. A great win for E as they were always in front and never looked like letting that lead go as they won 12-5. Unfortunately the other two games ended in defeat despite them both being close, D lost 8-7 and F lost 8-4. The two points were enough to keep us in 6th place.

Team	Played	Points
Durham	18	24
Suffolk	15	22
Sunderland	15	22
Cambridgeshire	15	20
Norfolk	15	20
Hertfordshire	18	14
Bedfordshire	18	11
Northumberland	15	6
Essex	15	5

Session 7

This was our sit out session; we remain in 6th place in the table.

Team	Played	Points
Durham	21	27
Suffolk	18	26
Cambridgeshire	18	25
Sunderland	18	24
Norfolk	18	23
Hertfordshire	18	14
Bedfordshire	21	12
Essex	18	10
Northumberland	18	7

Session 8

Durham were the next opponents for D,E & F. Would be a tough game as they had set the early pace. Whilst teams E & F kept their games reasonably tight we never looked like picking much up from the session. Team D were well beaten 14-1 (4 losses for them). Team E (2 wins, 2 losses) went down to a 10-4 defeat and team F (1 draw, 3 losses) lost 11-6.

Team	Played	Points
Durham	24	33
Suffolk	21	32
Norfolk	21	28
Cambridgeshire	21	27
Sunderland	21	25
Hertfordshire	21	14
Essex	21	14
Bedfordshire	21	12
Northumberland	21	7

Session 9

Essex was the last opponents of the day for A,B & C. A finished off a great first day as they won their match 10-2 (3 wins and a draw for them). Team C were never in their match and were well beaten 11-4 (1 win 3 losses for them). Team B were involved in a tight game which finished 7-7 (1 win, 1 draw, 2 losses). Three points from the session left us in 6th place overnight on 17 points. A very disappointing day considering we had 9 points after just 6 games and only picked up 8 points from the remaining 18 games. An improvement was needed on the Sunday if we were to improve on our performance last year.

Team	Played	Points
Suffolk	24	38
Cambridgeshire	24	33
Durham	24	33
Norfolk	24	28
Sunderland	24	25
Hertfordshire	24	17
Essex	24	17
Bedfordshire	24	14
Northumberland	24	11

Session 10

The first session on Sunday would see D,E & F play Northumberland. Two good victories for E 11-4 and F 10-8. Unfortunately team E were unable to complete the clean sweep as they lost a narrow game 7-5. Despite picking up four points we drop to 7th as Essex picking up all 6 points in their match.

Team	Played	Points
Durham	27	39
Suffolk	24	38
Cambridgeshire	27	37
Norfolk	27	30
Sunderland	27	25
Essex	27	23
Hertfordshire	27	21
Bedfordshire	27	14
Northumberland	27	13

Session 11

Bedfordshire were the first opponents of the day for A,B & C. A convincing 16-2 win for team A as they continued their good form from the first day. Teams B & C also picked up their first wins since the very first session of the weekend as B won 11-3 & C won 8-4. Ten points out of a possible twelve from the first two sessions was a great start to the day. We would need to ensure that we did not repeat the same mistakes of the previous day after making a good start. We moved back above Essex into 6th and were now just a point behind Sunderland (who we faced next).

Team	Played	Points
Suffolk	27	44
Durham	30	43
Cambridgeshire	30	37
Norfolk	27	30
Sunderland	30	28
Hertfordshire	30	27
Essex	30	25

Northumberland	30	16
Bedfordshire	30	14

Session 12

This was an important session if we wanted to finish above Sunderland. D still seeking their first points were very unlucky as they lost a tight game 8-6. Teams E & F ensured it was a good session for us though as they secured wins of 8-5 (E) and 11-3 (F).

Team	Played	Points
Suffolk	30	50
Durham	33	46
Cambridgeshire	33	40
Norfolk	30	33
Hertfordshire	33	31
Sunderland	33	30
Essex	33	28
Northumberland	30	16
Bedfordshire	33	14

Session 13

A tough game against the leaders and defending champions Suffolk was next for A,B & C. The game was closer then the score line suggested for C but they went down to a 12-5 defeat. Back to back wins for team B as they come out on top with a 10-8 win. Team A were locked at 5-5 on the final end in their game and it came down to a measure. Unfortunately it went against them and they lost their first game of the weekend 6-5.

Team	Played	Points
Suffolk	33	54
Durham	36	49
Cambridgeshire	33	40
Norfolk	33	36
Essex	36	34
Hertfordshire	36	33
Sunderland	36	33
Northumberland	33	19
Bedfordshire	36	14

Session 14

Norfolk were the next opponents for D,E & F. As when A,B & C faced Norfolk all three games were very close. Unfortunately only the one win was secured by F 7-5. D narrowly lost 12-9 and E lost their game 9-4. This result had dashed any hopes we had of catching Norfolk. We would now have to try and keep Essex and Sunderland at bay and try and finish 5th.

Team	Played	Points
Suffolk	36	58
Durham	39	51
Cambridgeshire	36	46
Norfolk	36	40
Hertfordshire	39	35
Sunderland	39	35
Essex	36	34
Northumberland	36	19
Bedfordshire	39	18

Session 15

Cambridgeshire were next up who trailed Suffolk by twelve points so were looking for maximum points to maintain any faint hopes they had of catching them. Team C always looked reasonably in control of their match as they come out on top with 9-3 win. Team A were involved in another tight match this time ending with a 5-5 draw. Team B trailed by three on the last end but their opponents knocked the jack off meaning they went down to a 7-6 loss. Three points from the session was a good effort and we maintained our narrow advantage over Sunderland & Essex.

Team	Played	Points
Suffolk	39	64
Durham	42	56
Cambridgeshire	39	49
Norfolk	39	44
Hertfordshire	42	38
Sunderland	39	35
Essex	39	34
Northumberland	39	20
Bedfordshire	42	20

Session 16

This was our sit out session. Sunderland were only able to gain two points and Essex only picked up three points so both teams remained behind us although we only had a slender one point advantage over both. Other results now meant that Suffolk could not be caught and they had retained their title they won last year.

Team	Played	Points
Suffolk	42	68
Durham	45	60
Cambridgeshire	42	55
Norfolk	42	46
Hertfordshire	42	38
Sunderland	42	37
Essex	42	37
Northumberland	42	23
Bedfordshire	45	20

Session 17

The last session of the weekend for A,B & C and Durham were the opponents who were looking to gain as many points as possible to finish runners up to Suffolk. Team A finished their weekend off with a 12-7 win, team C won their final game 11-5. Team B completed a good session with a 6-6 draw. Sunderland and Essex were only able to pick up two points each which meant that we had opened up a four point lead over the pair. We could no longer catch Norfolk so it was either going to be a 5th, 6th or 7th place finish.

Team	Played	Points
Suffolk	45	73
Durham	48	61
Cambridgeshire	45	59
Norfolk	45	50
Hertfordshire	45	43
Sunderland	45	39
Essex	45	39
Northumberland	45	24
Bedfordshire	45	20

Session 18

The final session would see D,E & F play against Essex. A single point would likely be enough to ensure we finished above our opponents due to our superior shots. Sunderland faced Cambridgeshire in the final session and knew they would probably need maximum points to have any chance of finishing 5th. Unfortunately for Sunderland they lost the last three matches and would have to settle for 7th place. The final session was not a good one for team D as they lost 15-3, a similar heavy defeat for team F 13-3 (their first of the day). Team E were also struggling as they trailed 8-5 going into the last end. A quick check on the scores and we were still ahead on shots so three were needed on the last end to finish 5th. A great last end saw us holding three however our skip still had another wood. He attempted to go for the win but failed with his last wood so an 8-8 draw was secured and with it 5th place.

The final standings are shown below.

Team	Played	Points	Shots For	Shots Agst
Suffolk	48	79	523	248
Cambridgeshire	48	65	424	334
Durham	48	61	425	294
Norfolk	48	50	364	354
Hertfordshire	48	44	349	347
Essex	48	44	341	388
Sunderland	48	39	324	416
Northumberland	48	26	324	446
Bedfordshire	48	24	275	522

A 5th place finish on 44 points was an improvement of one place and eight points on last year's effort. A very good effort on the second day as we had just 17 points overnight so we had secured 27 points on the second day. A good all round team effort, teams B,C,E & F all separated by just a couple of points. Team D failed to score although they battled hard all weekend and just come out on the wrong end of a number of tight games. Team A were the stand out team finishing on 12 points and losing just the one game. We will now try to take this form and confidence into our opening league game against Bedfordshire on 23rd November.

	W	D	L	SF	SA	Pts
A	5	2	1	74	40	12
B	3	2	3	61	52	8
C	4	0	4	52	54	8
D	0	0	8	44	85	0
E	4	1	3	65	53	9
F	3	1	4	53	63	7
Total	19	6	23	349	347	44