

ECCBA League Fixture 4

Norfolk v Hertfordshire

Wortwell Community Centre – Sunday 18th February 2018

Our fourth ECCBA league fixture of the season was an away fixture, at Wortwell Community Centre, against Norfolk. A good performance would be needed to come away with a positive result and keep us in with a shout of winning the ECCBA league title for the first time ever.

The team chose to represent Hertfordshire was as follows;

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

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

It would be the odd numbered teams to play first. Getting used to the carpets would be essential in order to try and build some early momentum. H1 got off to a strong start and whilst never getting away from their opponents always looked fairly comfortable as they come away with a 10-6 win. That's as good as it got though as H5 were well beaten 13-3 and H3 let the game get away from them in the middle to late ends and lost 11-5.

Session Score
Norfolk 4-2 Herts

Match Score
Norfolk 4-2 Herts

Session 2

It was not the even numbered teams to take to the mats. Having the advantage of watching the first session they started a little better. H6 were the best performers as they lead from start to finish and won 13-2. H4 made it the 2nd win in the session as they come out on top in a close game 8-4. H2 were unable to make it the perfect session as they fell to a narrow 8-6 loss.

Session Score
Norfolk 2-4 Herts

Match Score
Norfolk 6-6 Herts

Session 3

H1 were made to work a little harder for their win in this session but managed to come out on top with an 8-5 won. H3 fell 6-0 behind after just two ends in their match. A good shot from their skip on the 5th end picked up a count of six and put them into the lead. They maintained that lead till the end and took a good 13-9 win. H5 responded well after their defeat in the first session and took a 7-4 win to make it a perfect session for us.

Session Score
Norfolk 0-6 Herts

Match Score
Norfolk 6-12 Herts

Session 4

All three games in this session were low scoring but we maintained narrow leads in all three games. Those leads were protected and narrow wins of 8-1 (H2), 8-3 (H4) and 9-8 (H6) were secured. A second straight 6-0 session for us and we had suddenly gone from a locked game at 6-6 to already securing a point in the match at 18-6 in front. News was coming through that Suffolk were well in front against Bedfordshire was we needed to secure as many points as possible in the final session.

Session Score
Norfolk 0-6 Herts

Match Score
Norfolk 6-18 Herts

Session 5

H1 looking to secure their 3rd straight win of the day were involved in a very seesaw game. They dropped five shots on one end only to pick a big count up themselves on the next end. They done enough to maintain a late lead in the game and take an important 12-9 win. H5 were looking good to secure another win as they led 5-1 after four ends. However, a terrible last five ends saw our team drop 17 shots and lose the match 18-5. H3 were involved in a tight game and trailed 7-5 playing the final end. A poor last end saw them not in with much of a chance of picking up the two or three shots they needed and they lost the game 9-5.

Despite losing the session 4-2 we had now ensured an overall match win as we had opened up a 20-10 lead. It was now a case of how many points we could secure in the final session.

Session Score
Norfolk 4-2 Herts

Match Score
Norfolk 10-20 Herts

Session 6

H6, having won their first two games, were involved in a close game. They held their verve over the last few ends and managed to secure a 9-7 win. H4 were also looking for their 3rd straight win of the day. They unfortunately never got to grips with the carpet and suffered an 11-5 loss. H2 were involved in the closets game of the session. They played some good bowls and deserved their narrow 9-8 win.

Session Score
Norfolk 2-4 Herts

Match Result
Norfolk 12-24 Herts

A good performance and thanks to the two 6-0 session wins in the middle of the day we had secured a 24-12 away win. Unfortunately, Suffolk had beaten Bedfordshire 33-3 so we will go into the final game of the season trailing by six points. We are away to Cambridgeshire and Suffolk travel to Norfolk. Whilst it will now be tough to finish on top we will just need to win as points as we can and see what happens. A couple of milestones we can aim for. A win (19 points) would be the first time we have won four games in a single season. If we secure 21 points that would beat our best ever points tally (107) secured a few seasons back.

The individual team performances are displayed below

Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	SF	SA	Points
H1	3	3	0	0	30	20	6
H2	3	2	0	1	23	17	4
H3	3	1	0	2	23	29	2
H4	3	2	0	1	21	18	4
H5	3	1	0	2	15	35	2
H6	3	3	0	0	31	17	6
Total	18	12	0	6	143	136	24

The league table is shown below.

League Table

		Pld	W	D	L	SF	SA	Pts
1	Suffolk	4	4	0	0	641	448	93
2	Hertfordshire	4	3	0	1	569	542	87
3	Cambridgeshire	4	3	0	0	553	548	77
4	Essex	4	1	0	3	529	537	68
5	Norfolk	4	1	0	3	529	555	63
6	Bedfordshire	4	1	0	3	470	661	44