

Six Counties Championship – Sunday 13th April 2014

Braintree Leisure Centre – (Hosted by Bedfordshire)

Hertfordshire played their final ECCBA competition of the season at Braintree leisure centre on Sunday 13th April.

Hertfordshire started the first session with four games against Essex. H2 were never in the match and lost 16-2, the other three games were all reasonably close H3 were able to secure victory 9-8, H1 went down 10-9 and H4 secured an 8-4. Four points from the first session was an encouraging start.

The next session saw H5 & H6 play against Essex and H1 & H2 play matches against Suffolk. H5 & H6 both went down to 9-5 defeats which resulted in an overall 8-4 loss against Essex. H1 & H2 both suffered heavy defeats against Suffolk, 16-4 & 17-9. Which meant no points were picked up in the session.

The third session saw the other Herts teams play the remaining four matches against Suffolk. All four games were close throughout but unfortunately we were unable to pick up any points as H3 lost 9-4, H4 lost 9-8 and H5 & H6 both lost 7-4. Second session in a row where no points were secured and an overall 12-0 defeat to Suffolk. After the encouraging start we had all but ended our hopes of making an impression on the leading teams after just three sessions.

The fourth session saw three matches against Bedfordshire. Disappointingly only one win was secured, 9-5 by H3. H1 lost 6-3 and H2 went down 6-5. The only positive from the session was that we picked up our first points since the first session.

In to the fifth session and at last some positives for us to build on. Three good wins 12-4 (H4), 8-7 (H5) & 12-4 (H6) meant a maximum 6 points from the session and we had double our score from 6 points to 12. This meant an overall 8-4 victory over Bedfordshire.

The sixth session and 4 games against Cambridgeshire was never going to be easy. Only the one victory from the session as H4 won 9-8, defeats of 7-6 (H1), 8-2 (H3) and 18-1 (H2) meant only two points were picked up from the session.

The penultimate session saw two matches against Cambridge and two against Norfolk. H5 secured an 13-8 win and H6 secured a 6-6 draw. 3 out of the 4 points on offer against Cambridgeshire resulted in a narrow 7-8 loss overall. With H1 winning 12-4 & H2 winning 10-7 we managed 7 points out of the 8 on offer.

Going in to the final session we were in 4th place just a point above Norfolk and with four games to come against them. A 4-4 session draw would seal 4th place for us. A big 15-4 win for H3 and a heavy 21-5 loss for H6 meant it come down to either H4 or H5 to secure the two points needed to finish 4th. Neither could do it tough as they both went down to 10-6 defeats. This meant a 6-6 draw with Norfolk.

Hertfordshire finished on 23 points and in 5th place, a disappointing end to the season. It was unfortunate that after the promise we showed in the league season we could not perform better on the day.

The teams performed as per below;

H1 : Mary Cobbold , Gill Baraclough, Vince Tamorro, & Rob Washbrook : 2 Points

H2 : Paul Harris, Jacqui Harris, Jim Forrest & Margaret Forrest : 2 Points

H3 : Dave Smith, Jackie Spearman , Andy Cobbold & Mick Cook : 6 Points

H4 : Shirley Davidson, Lynda Coates , Marilyn Cook & Rebecca Hearn : 6 Points

H5 : Martin Simson, Roy Harding , Sandra Gammage & David Danby : 4 Points

H6 : Alan Bull , Mike Bennett, Tom Slade & Craig Hearn : 3 Points