

FEATHER CHALLENGE 10 April 2016

This years Feather Challenge tournament included 53 boys and girls from clubs around the County playing in Under 12, 14 and 16 age groups. The added interest this year was the presentation of the Roy Niblett Cups for the Under 12 competitions and the generous donation by Yehlex of Yehlex XY-3000 rackets for the winners. There were some notable performances by the younger players and a special mention for 10 year old Daham Sooribandara of St Ursulas JBC who had just landed on a flight from Australia the same morning (there's dedication).

The Under 12s had the largest entry with 4 boxes of boys and 2 boxes of girls.

Box A found Bo Wang of St Ursulas JBC win all his games ahead of Zac Reyes from Chew Valley JBC both progressing to the Quarter Finals. In Box B it was Guy Denning-Southern of Chew Valley JBC winning all his games ahead of Samuel Dayan of Colstons Primary school who had just the 1 loss. Box C was won by Chirag Hosdurga of St Ursulas JBC who was ahead of 8 year old Aarya Ramachandra. Box D had a strong performance by Marcus Pan of Uphill JBC winning all his games with runner up Saiyajat Henche of St Ursulas JBC.

In the Quarter Finals there were comfortable wins for Bo against Samuel (21-7) and Marcus against Aayra (21-10) whilst the other matches were more competitive, Guy beating Zac (21-14) and Saiyajat beating Chirag (21-15).

The Semis were both tight matches with the same scorlines of 21-18, Bo beating Guy and Marcus beating Saiyajat.

A 3rd place playoff was more straightforward for Saiyajat, beating Guy 21-12.

In the Final Marcus drew a significant lead before Bo gradually pulled himself back into the game with some great drop shots but it was a little too late and Marcus won the match 21-19.

In the girls competition It was Susanna Ogden of Portishead JBC who led Box G by comfortably winning all her games with just 1 loss for 9 year old Katie Whitmarsh of Chew Valley in second place. In Box H, the youngest girl in the tournament, 8 year old Prarthana Reddy of St Ursulas JBC won all her games including the unlikely mismatch in heights with Zoe Poole of Clevedon who came 2nd with the 1 loss.

The Semi Finals drew Susanna against Katie and Susanna proved a little too strong winning by 21-13.

The Final saw Susanna prove her ability with a convincing win over Prarthana by 21-9.

The Under 14 had 2 boys boxes continuing through to Semi Finals whilst the girls had a single box playing a 'round robin' format.

The boys box A was well matched with many many games going to a 21-20 scorline and all players winning at least 1 game. The top 2 boys were Pete Booker of Chew Valley JBC and Aditya Agadi of St Ursulas JBC both winning 3 games and first place going to Aditya by virtue of his 21-15 win over Pete. In Box B the tall Connor Thie of Clevedon won his 4 games to take first place ahead of Zion Chen of Uphill JBC who had just the 1 loss.

The Semi Finals placed Aditya against Zion in another competitive game which was won by Zion (21-15). Connor couldn't manage to maintain his winning form losing out to Pete (21-12).

The 3rd place playoff saw another good competition in which Aditya had the better of a 21-16 scoreline against Connor.

In the Final a great contest ensued between Zion and Pete resulting in a 21-19 win for Pete.

The girls box saw some more close games in which the Clevedon girls Hannah Richards-Ogborne and Melissa Poole took the top places Hannah winning 4 games and Melissa winning 3. Third place was taken by Polly Pyke of Chew Valley JBC winning 2 games.

The Under 16s had another 2 boxes of boys and 1 of girls.

In Box A, straight wins for Rob McRitchie of Yate Racketeers won through ahead of 1 loss for Ben

Moore of Uphill JBC. In Box B it was Toby Daw of Chew Valley JBC who won all his games and Adam Squires from Bath who game second only losing to Toby by 21-20.

The Semi Finals saw an incredibly tight game between Rob and Adam who lost out again by another 21-20 score. The second Semi Final was a more routine win for Toby, beating Ben 21-11. The 3rd place playoff matched Adam against Ben and this time Adam made sure of his trophy with a 21-7 win.

In the Final it was Rob who showed his skill in beating Toby 21-13 in another good final to end the day.

The Under 16 girls box was decided by the match between Jenny Rosser of St Ursulas JBC and Heather Russell of Uphill JBC which was a close encounter with Jenny's strong shots edging the match by 21-18. In 3rd place was another Uphill girl, Bethany Chadwick losing only to Jenny and Bethany.