

Feather Challenge 2019

The 2019 Feather Challenge took place at the new Badminton School Sport's Hall on Sunday 14 April.

As in recent years the U12 tournament provided the most players and was formatted as 4 boxes of boys with 4/5 players playing to 15 points in each and a girls box of 4 players playing to 21 points.

U12 Boys saw box A dominated by Abin Biju of Uphill winning all his games to go through to the Quarter Finals as winner with Alphie Jaimon of St Ursula's losing just the one game. In Box B Jasper Dieleman of St Ursula's won all his games ahead of club mate Ismail Maqsood. Box C saw Andy Wang another St Ursula's player win all his games ahead of Bhargav Ramachandra also of St Ursula's who only lost to Andy by a couple of points. Box D was made up from the younger players and St Ursula's Charlie Hutchinson had another clean sweep of games with Ralph Wood from Kingsdown in second place.

The Quarter-finals saw Abin convincingly beat Ismail 21-10, Jasper overcame Alphie 21-15, Andy beat Ralph 21-7 and Bhargav took his semifinal place at the expense of young Charlie 21-5. The Semi-finals were very competitive and resulted in Abin beating Andy 21-13 and Jasper beating Bhargav 21-18. The 3rd place playoff was another close game and went to Bhargav 21-15 and the final produced another commanding performance by Abin to take the Roy Niblett Cup and an Apacs racket with a 21-11 scoreline. The Girls box had Shenay Gumus of Uphill taking 3rd place ahead of Celia Mennell of Hengrove then 2nd came Dhyanee Sooriyabandara of St Ursula's losing just one game by 4 points to the winner Piyu Dhall also of St Ursula's who took the Roy Niblett Cup and an Apacs racket. The U14s were combined with the U16s in both boys and girls competitions due to reduced numbers and played all box games to 21 points. In Box A David Gumus of Uphill led the field as the only U16 player with the U14s led by Oliver Wescott of Portishead winning both his U14 games and ahead of second placed Pavan Nasipudi of St Ursula's who lost to Oliver by just 2 points. In Box B Ben Frydman won all his games convincingly ahead of James Austen of Severnside. The Semi-finals placed Ben against Pavan and resulted in another win for Ben 21-12 whilst Oliver and James had an epic battle for James to win out 25-23. The 3rd place was then decided in another close game in which Oliver won 21-16. The final was contested by Ben and James and led to a clean sweep of wins by Ben 21-10.

The girls box of 5 players mixed the U14 & U16 girls with the final games deciding the U16 outcome. For the U14s Riley Badman of Uphill played very well to win all her games and take first place ahead of Sophie Dawson from Portishead in 2nd and Ayshen Gumus of Uphill in 3rd. The U16 boys final was between David Gumus and Ben Frydman who doubled up in both U14s & U16s and produced a close game in which there were never more than a couple of points between them and was eventually won by Ben 22-10. The girls U16s was fought in another close match between Abi Fitzpatrick of Clevedon and Evelyn Thompson of St Ursula's and was won by Abi 21-19.