

Individual Tournament Secretary Report - 2017

Dear Members,

Once again it's that time of the year when I've got to drag myself away from my PS4 and put a report together detailing the triumphs and failures of last year's Individual Town Tournament Finalists.

So here goes.....Starting with the 1st matches to grace the courts, winners in bold & italics:

Vying for the Open Gentlemens Singles Title were ***Guy Vernon*** vs Adrian Hyland. Guy coming out on top in two sets. Sadly Adrian was hampered by an injury he had picked up in the earlier rounds but all credit to Guy for hanging on to his title for another year.

The Open Ladies Singles Title was between the current holder of the title ***Meggy Hague*** and last minute replacement Christine Pennington. Christine went way beyond the call of duty stepping in for Keren Cartwright who had to withdraw at the last minute. Once again Meggy was triumphant but not without a hard fought battle against a potential future champ in Christine.

The Open Gentlemens Doubles turned into a titanic struggle between Stuart Harrison & Nathan Freear vs Joe Steel & Jon Culshaw. ***Stuart & Nathan*** triumphing at the end of a hard fought battle.

The Open Ladies Doubles was truly a great contest between beaten Ladies Singles Finalist ***Christine Pennington & Tracey Wright Freear*** vs Michelle Mcleod & Keren Cartwright's last minute sub? With Tracey & Christine worthy champions.

The Open Mixed Doubles featured husband wife team ***Nathan Freear & Tracey Wright Freear*** vs Tracey Smith & Ross Powel. Once again a great contest with Nathan & Tracey coming out on top. Hats off to Tracey & Ross having reached the final once again only to run up against a very good husband and wife team of Nathan & Tracey.

5th Division & below panned out as:

Gentlemans Doubles: ***Alan Williamson & Marcin Tomaszewski*** vs Peter Brook & George Newport. Just because it's restricted to the 5th Div & below does not mean that there's any diminution in the desire to win with Alan & Marcin getting the win over the tricky pairing of Peter & George.

The Ladies Doubles was another fight to the death between ***Sonia Thomas & Jane Coffey*** vs Vicky Finlay & Sandra Macmillan with Sonia & Jane just proving too strong for Vicky & Sandra in the end.

The Mixed Doubles saw a repeat of last year's final with ***Shaun Couthard partnering Helen***

Wood to victory over Mal Thomas & Jane Coffey. Once again a great match that could have gone either way.

The Veterans (50 years and above to infinity & beyond)

The Gentlemens Singles Final was between **Tom Kelly** vs Adrian Hyland. Tom, coming out on top over a less & less mobile Adrian but a deserved winner nonetheless and someone who may hold the cup for a number of years to come.

The Ladies Singles Final was the closest for years with the evergreen **Anne Girdler** triumphing in the end over the plucky challenger Anne Moyers.

The Gentlemens Doubles Final on paper was going to be a cracker pitting current cup holders **Dave Price & Stephen Dundas** vs Adrian Hyland & Jaun Cumia. However, by this stage of the afternoon Adrian was virtually playing on one leg leading to Dave & Stephen comfortably retaining their title.

Last but not least featured those scions of the Southport & District Tennis League Anne Girdler and Dave Sherwood. **Anne Partnering Ian Davis** to victory over Dave and his partner Shirley Iliff.

Finally I would like to thank all those regulars who took part in this years event, Dave Sherwood, Pauline Pope, Anne Girdler, Adrian Hyland, Guy Vernon, Meggy Hague, Tracey Smith, Keren Cartwright and newcomers to the league Mal & Sonia Thomas, to name just a few individuals who enter year upon year and encourage other club members to take part.

In summary 2017 saw the largest entry into every event whilst I have been organising this event and heres hoping with your help 2018 will be even better.

With thanks to my partner in crime Mr Les Rimmer.

Denis Swainson

Individual Town Tournament Secretary