

CLUB TOURNAMENT DAY

The Brian Northwood Mixed Doubles Trophy

With the autumnal sun providing some very welcome early morning warmth, the day started off with registration for the inaugural "**BRIAN NORTHWOOD MIXED DOUBLES TROPHY**". Teams were randomly picked out the hat by our Chairman Tim Perry and with this event proving to be a popular this year, 2 leagues, each consisting of 5 teams commenced battle. With each match consisting of only 4 games, it was imperative that each team came out firing on all cylinders right from the first ball. Fortunately, an early decision by the Committee to make Sam and Michael play left handed ensured that all the league matches remained competitive for the rest of us mere mortals. On the other hand of course, it just proved more embarrassing to be beaten by someone playing with their wrong hand. With all the results dutifully recorded and the afternoon finals fast approaching, a decision had to be made whether to hold a final between the winners of each league or to use count back on all the games won. The count back decision won, so John Fab used a tried and tested way to work out the complicated result. With both teams having scored more than ten games, there was a long wait, but when he'd put his socks back on, the result was announced. By winning 14 from a possible 16 games, the trophy, presented by Dorothy Northwood went to Helen and Jim, who beat Chris and Alan by 1 game.



Ladies Doubles Final

With Jane undertaking the duties of Umpire, the mother and daughter team of Stella and Jenny took on the very capable pair of Caroline and Denise.

Spectators were treated to what proved to be a long and gruelling match full twists and turns. However, despite this and the many enthralling rallies, it was Stella & Jenny who were declared CHAMPIONS and took away their well earned winners trophies.



Men's Singles Final

Finals day could never be complete without this blue ribbon event. With Michael and Richard topping the new competition ladder, both had earned the right to do gladiatorial battle with each other. The only problem for Richard - Michael was released from the constraint of only using his left hand. Nevertheless, Richard battled hard and played his heart out but sadly didn't get much change from the much younger Michael, who seemed to hit the ball with a freedom that most Club players will never ever experience. With Michael winning the trophy multiple times, Richard can at least hold his head up high, knowing that he fared no worse than Michael's other opponents over the years.



Men's Doubles Final

The last event of the day saw John and Jim take on Michael and Colin. Having missed out on the mixed trophy, it was clear from the start that this was one he wanted to win and that no prisoners would be taken.

Some superb exchanges brought a little success to the underdogs but Michael's ballistic serve, shot consistency and blistering overheads proved to be too much to handle. Worse still, his speed across the net was just electric surpassed only by his court coverage. I should remind everyone that Colin did play a part in this well deserved win and thoroughly deserved his half of the trophy.



The day was thoroughly enjoyed by all and the cake along with the BBQ most welcome. Organizing these events are always time consuming. On behalf of all the competitors, we applaud all those that gave up their time to make this day so special.

