

## **Report for the U11 county cup - 15th & 16th June**

**Venue, Woodford Wells**

**Team: Sam, Albert, Aaron, David, Lucas**

**Captain: Chris Stocker**

The U11 team made the journey to the Woodford Wells club to compete in the latest stage of the LTA Junior County Cup. They faced teams from the East Region and were up against Lincolnshire & Bedfordshire in the initial group stage.

Lincolnshire - A day of rain & disruption! The opening matches from Lucas & Aaron were both close affairs in the first sets. Both unlucky to lose in a first set tie break, and Lucas on sudden death deuce twice in the second to end 3-4 2-4. Aaron losing his way in the second to end 3-4 0-4.

Albert and Sam both got off to a slow start in their singles, Sam rallying in his second set to lose out in a tie break when a 3rd set looked to be on the cards. We ended the singles 0-4 down. The doubles continued the theme of lost tie breaks, with David coming in to play with Albert, the boys losing the second set on a tie break. Sam and Lucas provided an entertaining match which went to a 3rd set, but, we suffered another tie break loss.

Bedfordshire: on Sunday we knew a win against Bedfordshire was achievable. This was confirmed early on with a comfortable win for Lucas, 4-0 4-2. However, the curse of the tie break was back on day 2 with David the victim of a double tie break loss in the 2nd and final set 4-3 3-4 7-10. This was followed by a loss for Aaron at 2, but quickly the mood changed after a solid win for Sam 4-0 4-1. 2-2 after the singles.

Sam teamed up with Albert to put us 3-2 up going into the final doubles, where David & Lucas were unfortunate to suffer a defeat in the 3rd set 5-10.

This took us to a shoot out where the Bedfordshire pairing took control and never looked back. We would be playing off for 5th & 6th.

Buckinghamshire: In our final match, we had the singles line up of Lucas, David, Albert & Sam. Lucas battled over 3 long sets, in conditions more befitting of a June summers day! As with all performances over the weekend, he battled for every point, but fell just short in the 3rd set tie-break, 4-2 2-4 8-10. David and Sam showed good fighting spirit in their matches but were beaten in two sets by both of the Bucks players. Albert with a close first set, lost in the tie break before we went into the doubles.

With both doubles going the same way to Bucks, we needed the weekend largely reflecting on the missed opportunities in close games, the sudden death deuces and especially winning just 2 of 12 tie breaks! A lot to learn for this young team.

Thanks to the players and parents for giving 100% on court and off court supporting.

Chris

