

Week Commencing 28th November 2005

This season the Southwell Trophy is being played as a two-aside instead of a three-aside tournament. Each match therefore consists of four singles and a doubles game. Each game is one set played up to 61 from a handicap which reflects the ability of the whole team, not the individuals playing in that game. In the first round played last week, Eathorpe A had to work hard in their local derby from scratch before coming out on top in the fifth game to beat Eathorpe F 3-2. Brother and sister Matthew and Sophie Cooper won the doubles 61/48 to add to Matthew's two singles for the match for the A's. Father and daughter Dave and Katie Hawker from a handicap of +18 took one each for the F team. Eathorpe J had it easier in their local derby, beating Eathorpe H 3-0, with Ryan Oldham taking two singles and James Matharu one. The J's worked from scratch, the H's from +5. Two matches both involving Free Church against Eathorpe were both won by the Church sides. First Free Church H from scratch beat Eathorpe C from +8 3-2, Sam and Thomas Smith picking up one singles each and finally the doubles for the match. Alastair Nicholson held onto his two singles for Eathorpe C. Finally Free Church D, again from scratch, beat Eathorpe B off +2 3-0. Ron Stanbridge and Pete Rourke took one single each and the doubles together. In addition Free Church D beat the combined Church H and I teams 5-0 in the first round of the three-aside individually handicapped Coronation Cup.

Division 3 matches continue with the Bennett family for St. Georges D steaming over Standard Photo 7-3 thanks to three from Rob and the doubles with brother Martin; two from Tony and one from Luke. Brendan Leahy kept two for Photo, Geoff Taylor one. Saints carried on to an 8-2 score in an excellent match over AP B. Rob and Martin took singles and doubles and Tony added one more. Tony Williams and Stephanie Hawkins held one each for AP's reply.

A sound performance by Eathorpe E in Division A although Paul Nason challenged strongly for St. Georges E taking their single point. Eathorpe did well to take the doubles from 2 sets down and a deuce 5th set to give the match score of 4-1. Charlie Wragg took two singles and Peter Nicholson one singles as well as the doubles together. LCP Packers are finding it hard in this division. First they went down 5-0 against FISSC B and then to the same score against Riverhouse Henley B. Brian Marston and John Hunt were the Farmers to take singles and doubles. Joe and Steven Shaw took their singles and doubles to give Riverhouse the 5-0 success. A closer match for FISSC B against Jordan F1 led to Mike Jordan and Mike Skidmore taking the doubles to add to their one single each to give Jordan the 3-2 victory. David Milton held his two for the Farmers' points. St. Georges F also had a tight match against LCP Dreamers though Steven Johnson's brace and Philip Morby's single gave them the match at 3-2. Simon Walmesley took one single and the doubles with Nick Blackmore in the fifth for Dreamers.

A comprehensive 5-0 win in Division B by Eathorpe G's Chris Long and Tom Jamie in spite of two 5 set singles which could well have been won by opponents Free Church I. A deuce game also settled the doubles. Dave and Katie Hawker also took singles and doubles to give their team Eathorpe F a 5-0 result over Free Church I.

A close Division C local derby saw Church L picking up the doubles and the match at 3-2 against Church P. Jack Hobbins and Scott Delday added the doubles to Scott's brace for L's win. Henry Carpenter and Lucy Marlow kept one each for the P side. A keen contest between two father and daughter teams resulted in a 4-1 win for the Church J duo, Russell Spencer winning the battle of the dads by taking his two singles, and Charlotte Spencer that between the daughters, plus the doubles together. Mark Hancock consoled Eathorpe I with one point though his nine year old daughter Elizabeth impressed taking both her opponents to 4 sets in a friendly family occasion.

Free Church N edged past Free Church O with a 3-2 result when Lauren Delday and Roald Myers gave N the doubles and the match. Roald Myers had already taken his two singles. Kyle Thompson and Chris Beckett kept one each for the O's.