

Herts Masters Teams 2016/17

Review of season

Hi all, many thanks to every single one of you who continued to make the Masters Badminton in Hertfordshire such a positive experience. We again ran teams in 5 age groups from O40s up to O60s, with a good deal of success through the season although we did find it increasingly difficult to run teams at both O40s and O45s. My thanks as before go the captains of our teams who got everything together for each match and always with a great deal of enthusiasm:

O40s Ed Lintott

O45s Ed Lintott

O50s Nathalie Titterton

O55s Kevin Maughan

O60s Joe Rayappan

O40s

	O40s	Played	Won	Drew	Lost	Pts
1	Essex	8	8	0	0	24
2	Beds	8	4	0	4	12
3	Bucks	8	4	0	4	12
4	Herts	8	4	0	4	12
5	Suffolk	8	0	0	0	0

Unfortunately, due to us having to concede the last game against Beds it meant we finished 2nd equal rather than on our own. Ed Lintott played in 7 of the 8 matches and was also the most successful player winning 13 matches. Liz Austin should also be mentioned for winning 11 of her 15 games. 21 players were selected to play in the O40s, which included players playing out of their age group, some 4 age groups out due to unavailability

O45s

	O45s	Played	Won	Drew	Lost	Pts
1	Essex	4	4	0	0	12
2	Cambs	4	2	0	2	6
3	Herts	4	0	0	4	0

Disappointing to have only played 4 games due to the withdrawal of the Suffolk Team at the start of the season. Special thanks to Linda Riley who was the only player to play in all 4 games. The most successful of the 18 players who played in the team were Don Burden and Liz Austin who won 4 out of their 6 games.

The player of the season for the O45s was Caroline Hale

O50s

	O50s	Played	Won	Drew	Lost	Pts
1	Essex	8	7	0	1	21
2	Suffolk	8	6	0	2	17
3	Norfolk	8	5	0	3	14
4	Herts	8	1	0	7	4
5	Cambs	8	1	0	7	4

The regular players this year were Derek Cox, Tim Jalland ,Tim Moore, Finn Rooney, Diane Brown, Nicky Dewhurst (8 matches), Melanie Greyner and Nathalie Titterton (8 matches). Subbing in for the team were Kevin Maughan, Darren Cowell, Simon Bygrave, Rachida Barnett, Sangeeta Dahl. Phil Turner and Bob Green.

Nicky with 11 wins and Melanie with 10 were the most successful players

O55s

	O55s	Played	Won	Drew	Lost	Pts
1	Essex	6	4	0	2	14
2	Bucks	6	3	0	3	8
3	Herts	6	3	0	3	8
4	Suffolk	6	2	0	4	4

With Steve nominated to play and then unfortunately not being able to play any, it was always going to be a challenging year, but we did OK and were in the running to win the league until the last 2 games. With the slight hiccup that was Essex and then a similar hiccup v Suffolk in the end we finished 3rd, but could have been worse!

Thanks to everyone, but special mention to Kiyoko and Sandra who topped the 'number of games played' table but particularly Kiyoko who topped the 'games won' table! For those interested all the team stats are on the BE site - just go to www.hbamasters.org.uk and use the links on the left to get to the O55s section. **This is also the case for all the age groups if you would like to see more detailed results of all your games**

Time to rest those tired bodies for a few weeks, then back into training J. The plan is to have some Masters practices in September and I will be in touch once the dates are finalised.

Lastly, congratulations to Nick for getting the silver medal in the All England doubles! We have a superstar in the team!

The player of the season was Kiyoko

Kevin

O60s

	O60s	Played	Won	Drew	Lost	Pts
1	Essex	6	5	0	1	16
2	Kent	6	5	0	1	14
3	Suffolk	6	1	0	5	3
4	Herts	6	1	0	5	3

Two ever presents here were Jeff Armstrong and Joe Rayappan, well done to both of them. 14 players represented the team through the season and Joe would like to nominate Dwight Smiley as the player of the season.

County Challenge Weekend – January 2017

We once again entered teams in this competition, which is a fantastic weekend of high quality Badminton with matches being a shortened version of the regular County Championships.

The O45s couldn't quite repeat their success of being National Champions for the past 2 seasons although there were really close calls in some fine matches and lost out on 2nd by points against.

The O50s were in their first ever Challenge in Andover and found it tough going but were competitive in all their games.

Unfortunately we had to pull out of the O55s because of a lack of availability from key players

In the O60s we probably had the best results with the team having a great weekend to finish 2nd behind Suffolk and finishing in front of Berkshire, Worcestershire, Shropshire and Warwickshire. Standout performances here came from Lynne Leigh with 5 wins out of 5 and Dwight Smiley with 4 wins out of 4. Joe would particularly like to mention Barrie Saunders who went up and back twice for the 2 days.

Thoughts from the Season

There has been a thought from several players about ensuring that there are squads for each team which form the bulk of that team for the whole season – I am in favour of this and it is the balance between ensuring that players play on the strongest team possible for them and nominating players for their own age group

Can I also apologise to any player who felt that they did not get a look in last season – I started the role of Masters Co-ordinator 2 seasons ago and the remit I set myself was to involve as many players as possible, more especially those that have not represented Hertfordshire previously

Masters Successes from the season

National Championships

Liz Austin – Winner O45s Mixed Doubles
Caroline Hale – Runner Up O45s Womens Singles
Nick Goode – Runner Up O55s Mens Doubles

All England Championships

Caroline Hale – Runner Up O45s Ladies Singles
Don Burden / Jim Teale / Martin Haddon – Semi Finalists O50 Mens Doubles
Don Burden – Semi Finalist O50 Mixed Doubles
Nick Goode – Runner Up O55 Mens Doubles
Liz Austin / Caroline Hale – Runners Up O45 Womens Doubles
Liz Austin – Runner Up O45 Mixed Doubles
Jo Goode – Winner O40 Mixed Doubles

Teams and Captains for next year

There were issues about getting teams out for the younger age groups, as you can see from the number of players picked for the 40s and 45s this season. At the captains meeting we discussed the possibility of not having a 40s team because of this but possibly 2 teams at O45 level – this would obviously mean several players not having the opportunity to play at all which would be a shame.

I am sending out a separate email to all those who have recently turned 40 or are about to, but also could you let me know of players that you know would perhaps be interested.

Can I also ask all Club Secretaries to ask at their clubs for any players over the age of 40 to get in touch with me at steve586@msn.com if they are at all interested in playing in Masters teams next year.

Captains for 2017/18

O45s – Ed Lintott
O50s – Nathalie Titterton
O55s – Kevin Maughan
O60s – John Ridley (a new captain which is great for the county, welcome on board John)
O65s – Joe Rayappan (a step up in age for Joe and great if we can get an extra team as we have better availability)

Dates for practices and fixtures

I will keep away from the dates of the National Masters Tournaments and Mothers Day!

There will also be practices at the start of next season as we had this year again at the start of September – 3rd, 10th, 17th. These will be confirmed when I know for definite.

Lastly many thanks to all of you have played this season, I haven't at all! But hope to take part next season

Many thanks
Steve Willis
Masters Co-ordinator for Hertfordshire