

Chairman of Selectors / Senior County Captains' Report 2017

Herts 1st team

This has been a really solid year for the team who beat Middlesex 1 6-5 at the final weekend and went unbeaten all season, just finishing in second place behind Middlesex on rubbers won. This secured a playoff spot and the chance to get into the south premier division again.

At the play-off weekend in May things were much tougher and unfortunately the team lost all of their matches to Middlesex, Leicestershire and Leinster despite some excellent and close fought games.

County 1st team player of the season was Jo Goode who won 5 out of her 6 matches at the play-off weekend and a perfect record of 100% in the 14 rubbers she played during the whole year – an absolutely incredible achievement! There were also excellent performances from Natalie Barton and Ryan McCarthy who both played a maximum possible 14 matches and only dropped 2 rubbers throughout!

With this level of success it is surely just a matter of time before the premier dream is realised.

Herts 2nd team

This has been a brilliant season for the second team bringing together great experience and bright young talent. The team achieved above and beyond expectations, only losing one match all year to the eventual winners. There were lots of close matches, including 2 third end 30-29 wins!

There was great team spirit throughout the squad which carried us through to eventually finishing 2nd this year but on these performances we would stand a great chance to get into 1st position next year.

County 2nd team player of the season was Laura Cousins, for the second consecutive year. This was a very difficult decision with lots of players contributing towards the success of the team but Laura has shown great dedication to the team, even coming straight from her football game so we didn't have to concede any games.

Equally as impressive has been her 90% winning ratio! Which definitely pushed the team to finishing 2nd and only 3 points off promotion! Congratulations to Laura on another great season!

Herts 3rd team

Gained Promotion!

This has been an amazing season for this team! and a great example of the strength and depth that our county has. The team was once again made of experienced county players and talented young players.

We made the decision that we would try to keep this team together as much as possible, therefore allowing for more consistency which hasn't always been possible in previous seasons.

The team was constantly pushing at the top of the league but it took until the last fixture of the season to grab top spot and therefore this means we will have 2 teams in Division 2 next season!

Special thanks have to go to Charlotte Willis for captaining the side on the day and really helping to bring a great team ethos without which this year's achievements wouldn't have been possible.

County 3rd Team Player of the season was Kath Warden. As you can expect in a promotion season everybody would have contributed greatly to that success but Kath has shown her great ability to adapt playing with many different partners throughout the season, and for everyone that consistently played in the division, Kath had the highest win percentage, not just for Herts, but across the whole league at 93%!

This award also recognises commitment to the county as Kath is always willing to help, and is at most of our training sessions.

Herts Player of the Season

The overall Player of the Season award went to Luke Jones who had a very good season and who continues to show fantastic commitment to the county.

Well done to all players on another great season and also to the team of selectors, Andy Walden, Liz Austin and Ben Vranjkovic were able to field full teams for all the matches.

Finally, massive thanks must also go to our President Bob Welsh who has continued to support the county teams and players with his attendance at every training session during the year and at all the matches that he could throughout the season. We are all very grateful!

101st All England Seniors 2017

We had lots of players enter this across all of the age groups, with lots of success.

We had 2 winning events:

RICHARD DOLING and Daniel Plant won the 40MD

Nick Ponting and JOANNE GOODE MBE won the 40XD

Other notable achievements:

ELIZABETH AUSTIN and CAROLINE HALE were runner up in 45WD

CAROLINE was also runner up in the 45WS

LIZ was also runner up in the 45XD (Caroline was also a semi finalist in this event)

DONALD BURDEN, JIM TEALE and MARTIN HADDON all reached the semi final of the 50MD

DONALD also made the semi final of the 50XD

Well done to everyone that played, some great results!