

Essex Tennis - 2021

Essex v Cambridge University – Event Report **Saturday 19th June 2021**

Leo-Lyle Trophy Doubles Tournament Event Report **Saturday 10th July 2021**

The Annual Friendly County Match between Essex & Cambridge University was played on the excellent Grass Courts at Cambridge University. This is an fixture which is played to help Essex Tennis & Cambridge University in their respective preparations for the LTA Summer Grass Court Championships & the Varsity Match for Cambridge University versus Oxford University. This year for the 3rd year of competition, Essex Tennis again were worthy Winners by 8 Rubbers to 1. This is a very competitive fixture with the Final Score not really representing the closeness of the matches.

Essex Tennis Players featured Marshall Tutu, Alex Groves, James Caddies, Jamie Bixby, Anthony Weingarten, Adam Groves & Henry Hammond.

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The Annual Essex Tennis Leo-Lyle Trophy Men's Doubles Invitation Tournament was held successfully at Thorpe Bay LTC, the home of the event for the 12th year, on Saturday 10th July 2021.

The event was organised by Tom Higgins, Essex Tennis Senior Men's Captain and Graham Ray, together with Steve Wynn who refereed the event. The Leo-Lyle Trophy Doubles Tournament is a high level Men's Doubles Tennis Event and is used as an important lead up event to the forthcoming National Event, the Summer LTA Inter-County Grass Courts Doubles Championships being held later this month all around the UK in a variety of Club venues. This year the Essex Tennis Men's Team will again be competing in a week long event in Group 1 at Devonshire Park in Eastbourne where the pre –Wimbledon Tournament Event was hosted. The Essex Ladies will this year will be competing in Group 2 in Cheltenham. Best wishes for the success of both teams in the forthcoming event starting for the complete week commencing Monday 19th July 2021.

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A reduced compliment of only 8 players participated in this year's competition, Players were placed in a single box group & played in a Round Robin Format. All Group Round Robin Matches were played using a playing format of 2 tie-break sets with a '10 Point Match. This year a 'Sudden Death – Nominated Deuce' system was incorporated in the first 2 sets which met with player approval. It was pleasing to see a mixture of established Senior Essex Tennis Players blending in with our talented younger players who responded competitively at the opportunity of playing against their experienced Senior Peers. Players participating this year involved Edward & Thomas Pudney, Jamie Bixby & Anthony Weingarten, James Caddies & Mark Klein & Sam Constantinou & Toby Terrel.

The weather was kind to us which meant that the Event ran smoothly. The Final, after the Group Stages had been completed, saw the Brothers Pudney emerge victorious against Jamie Bixby & Anthony Weingarten in a closely fought & entertaining match. The 3rd -4th Place Round featured James Caddies & Mark Klein up against the youngsters Sam Constantinou & Toby Terrel with the experience of James Caddies & Mark Klein showing for them to be the victors

The presentation of the trophies was made by Giles Brickwood, son of the Former Essex Tennis President, Harry Brickwood, who remained associated with this event until his sad passing recently.

Thorpe Bay LTC were thanked as the most generous hosts in allowing the use of their facilities, on what was a great day for quality Men's Doubles Tennis.

Graham Ray

Graham Ray
Essex Tennis Team Vice Captain -
Performance Officer & Organiser.