



Report for Beechdown Club Closed Tennis Finals

I would like to thank everyone for taking part and entering this year's tennis finals. It has been great to see people on court arranging their matches and putting into practice what they have been learning in the mon/thurs coaching sessions. In all of the categories we had good numbers which made the draws interesting.

We had 5 different categories men's / ladies singles men's / ladies doubles and mixed doubles.

The first final completed was the mixed doubles event, we had a really strong field with lots of team players entering too. The final 4 consisted of number 1 seeds Simon and Tina Wood Vs Damian Lane and Gwen Archer, this was an exhibition of Damo and Gwen's volleys and tactics versus Simon's serve and Tina's hard hitting. The rallies were long and gruelling but eventually Simon/Tina overcame the resistance and took the match in straight sets.

The ladies singles was a great encounter, we ended up with the number 1 seed Andrea Butcher Vs the number 2 seed Claire Munns. Andrea took the first set 6-2 moving Claire about and controlling most of the points and keeping Claire's big forehand at bay. The second set was a close one with Claire pushing Andrea into a tie breaker and delivered some big winners, eventually Andrea pulled through and claimed the match 6-2 7-6.

The men's singles was an epic encounter between the number 2 seed Simon Wood vs Chris Ball, the match was a brutal affair and lasted just over 3 hours. Chris claimed the first set breaking Wood's big serve in the 12th game and took the set 7-5. The second set was gripping as Ball had match point at 5-4 but Wood hit a punishing forehand and managed to edge into a tie break where he dominated and took it 7-6. The 3rd set was gruelling and physically punishing on both players, Simon dug in and produced some big returns and forehands and claimed the victory 5-7 7-6 6-3.

The men's doubles was a fierce encounter between the number 1 seeds Frank Marshall / Simon Wood vs Chris Ball / Dave Deadman. This was a hard fought match but in the end Frank/Simon produced enough quality to despatch them 6-2 6-3.

The ladies doubles was a tough match between the top four players in the club, the match was between the number 1 seeds Andrea Butcher/Claire Munns Vs Tina Wood/Christine Doig. Andrea and Claire played some solid doubles and did enough to keep wood and doig at arms length taking the first set 6-2. The second set was really close and Tina hit some big winners and Christine defended solidly, eventually the number 1 seeds edged the breaker and claimed the match 6-2 7-6.

Some big performances from Simon / Tina who were in 4 of the 5 finals and Simon won 3 events. I would also like to thank everyone for the manner in which the tournament was played and for making the competition what it was.

Hope to see you on court soon,

Tom