

COUNTY O60 REPORT BY TONY SMITH

I feel very honoured to be Captain of Leicestershire over 60s team and my team mates certainly stepped up to the mark in what was a very successful day for Leicestershire. With it being a new team we have had to start in Division 2B and there are 7 teams in the Division. The 6 matches will be played over 3 Saturdays and this first Saturday was on 6/11/2021.

We were down to play 3 matches on the first Saturday and was being played at St Neots in Cambridgeshire.

Fortunately there were 6 tables so if we got behind we could play on two tables. This was beneficial as we managed to get finished for 6.45pm but could have been very late had we not had this facility.

First match was Bedfordshire 2nd team and Richard Hayes got us off to the perfect start winning 3-0 although his first game did end up 14-12.

Tony Smith made it 2-0 to Leicestershire winning 3-0 as well 4,5 and 4.

On to Chris Brewer who although went 2-0 up in games his opponent managed to get it back to 2-2. It was all on the fifth and was going our way up to 10-6 to Chris then his opponent won the next 6 points to pinch it 12-10.

That made it 2-1 to Leicestershire.

Karen Smith and Richard won the mixed convincingly 3 games to nil 3,5 and 7 so making it 3-1.

Tony lost the next one in 5 after being 2-1 up so match score 3-2.

Karen won her singles easily 3,3 and 4 to make it 4-2.

Men's Doubles needed to be Chris and Tony as Richard felt his calf go a bit so didn't want to play more doubles than he had too and would take it steady not to do any more damage to his calf.

We won in 3 to make it 5-2 so 1 more required.

Chris got us over the line in his next singles although he was 2-1 down in games managed to win in 5 so now 6-2.

Both Richard singles and Tony and Karen in the mixed won these 2 which meant a great win 8-2 for the first match.

The next match Warwickshire 2 was we thought going to be testing for us as they had beat Cambridgeshire 6-4 in their first match. This proved not to be the case as although they got it to 2-1 at one stage by Paul Calloway (plays for Ajax) beating Richard deuce in the 5th that was as close as it got really with us coming out 9-1 winners.

On to our final match against Cleveland who like ourselves had entered a team for this year so we weren't sure what to expect.

We were warmed up by this stage and came out 10-0 winners.

This puts us top of the league and a very good sets difference.

Thanks to Richard, Chris and Karen for making it such a fun day out at Cambridge and Player of the day goes to Karen undefeated and very well played.

Richard Hayes singles 5/6, Mixed Doubles 1/1 and 2/2 Men's Doubles.

Chris Brewer singles 5/6, Mixed Doubles 2/2 and 1/1 Men's Doubles.

Tony Smith singles 5/6, Mixed Doubles 3/3 and 3/3 Men's Doubles.

Karen Smith singles 3/3 and 6/6 mixed Doubles.