

## **ROSE JOHNSON CHALLENGE BOWL**

After a re-imagined format and a competitive group stage receiving largely positive feedback - four teams progressed to the semi-finals which would be a straight knockout.

It was great to see players from six different clubs represented in the semi's - including Knighton Park, Abbot's Road, Winstanley and a mixed team of Regents Sports, Nomads and Leicester Tennis & Squash.

Winstanley progressed relatively comfortably from their semi, winning by 20 points overall. Chandra was the standout player for the winners, whilst for the opposition Zelko used his head-start to good advantage to win both his singles.

The other semi turned out to be even more one sided, with Abbots Road progressing by 36 points against the Knighton Park team (Musketeers). Andy and John showed the most resistance for the losing team. Bhulesh sealed the win with a crushing 21-8 victory over Dean.

It would be safe to say that the Final and 3rd place play off were much closer affairs. Musketeers claimed 3rd place by 6 points overall, with Andy and Dean winning both their matches this time around. It seemed both teams might have been keen to get to the pub, playing the match over two tables to speed things up.

The final was extremely close from start to finish, with Abbots Road being a few points ahead at the halfway stage. However, wins from Chandra, Kai and Kalan swung the balance into Winstanley's favour going into the last game.

The pressure was all on Hemant and Bhulesh, with Hemant needing 16 points to secure the victory for Winstanley. However, Bhulesh was on top form and proved to be too consistent, winning 21-12 to secure a narrow 3 point win for Abbot's Road.

The organiser was sweating at the prospect of what to do in the event of a tie.. but in the end the famous old trophy was going home with Abbots Road.

A good night had by all, and we hope to see another strong turnout for next seasons competition. A special thanks goes to Peter Wilson who did it a great job sorting out the gradings for the more than 50 players participating in the tournament.

Kind Regards,  
Jordan