

LEICESTERSHIRE COUNTY VETERANS 1st TEAM REPORT

The final 4 matches in the Veterans Premier Division took place at Draycott TTC on 29th / 30th January 2022. Leicestershire were again represented in all matches by Chris Rogers, Dave Gannon, Abraham Conteh and Karen Smith.

After 4 tense and very close matches, Leicestershire maintained their Premier Division status for another season with a creditable 5th place finish.

Champions **Nottinghamshire** were first up and their strength told as they inflicted a **6-4 defeat**. Chris and Karen picked up the Leicestershire wins, Chris beating Jason Ramage and Mark Green for the loss of just 1 game, and Karen beating Sarah Short in 5, and the 2 combined for a mixed doubles win. Dave lost a close one in 5 games to Lee Neil.

The second match was another **6-4 defeat, this time to Sussex**. 2 wins from Chris and 1 from Abraham, plus a mixed from Chris & Karen were the Leicestershire successes, but a draw was well in reach as Dave and Karen both lost close matches in the 5th having been 2-1 ahead.

Sunday started with a match against Derbyshire and it was one which Leicestershire very much needed to win. They went 3-1 ahead with wins for Abraham, Chris and a mixed doubles, before Dave was desperately unlucky to lose 15-13 in the 5th to Mo Shapir. Karen restored the 2 set advantage recovering from 2-0 down to defeat Jane Vickers, but Derbyshire levelled at 4-4. Chris let a 2-0 lead slip against Garry Knights but battled through to win 11-7 in the 5th and Abraham & Karen comfortably won the final mixed doubles to give **Leicestershire a 6-4 victory**, and pull them away from the relegation positions.

The final match was against **Middlesex** who needed a victory and other results to go their way, to avoid relegation. Another close match resulted which ended in a **5-5 draw**. 2 wins from Chris (completing 100% for the weekend), 1 from Abraham, Karen with the Ladies Singles and Chris & Karen in the mixed got Leicestershire to 5, but Leicestershire again missed chances which would have given them another point, losing 3 matches in the 5th including the final mixed doubles 12-10 in the decider. In addition, Dave was troubled by a sore calf in his match against the Middlesex No 3, which he would normally have expected to win.

Table

#	Team	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	SF	SA	Pts
1	Nottinghamshire 1	7	6	1	0	159	114	45	25	13
2	Yorkshire 1	7	5	1	1	149	135	40	30	11
3	Kent 1	7	4	2	1	157	109	42	28	10
4	Sussex 1	7	2	2	3	134	142	33	37	6
5	Leicestershire 1	7	2	2	3	131	142	33	37	6
6	Derbyshire 1	7	2	1	4	126	145	33	37	5
7	Middlesex 1	7	0	3	4	116	160	26	44	3
8	Berkshire 1	7	1	0	6	124	149	28	42	2