

Date: 29 Nov 2010

Match: LA Fitness vs. Kenilworth

Kenilworth still going strong despite minor hiccup

As we rapidly approach the half way point of the season, Kenilworth continued to impress in their top vs. bottom of the table clash as LA Fitness entertained Kenilworth on a bitterly cold set of courts. Kenilworth were comfortable winners in the end, winning 4-1, but would have been disappointed to have dropped a game. Guy Pearson was the loser, and having put up a stand-out performance playing at 1 in a David vs. Goliath battle against Sutton Coldfield, his focus and shot making decisions were lacking somewhat on Monday. His opponent was organised and was moving well, but silly mistakes at critical times of the match meant the Guy lost 3-2. A wake up call for Guy, but we are confident he will bounce back in next week's clash of the titans.

Sarah-Jane Perry once again demonstrated good adaptability on a freezing court, coming home with a 3-0 win in a game which she was always in control of. Once again her fighting qualities came through after being 6-10 down in the 1st game. She manipulated her opponent well by subtle variations in length, finding a good equilibrium between her long and short game to ensure that her opponent was always second best, well played Sarah.

Steve Townsend, playing at 3, and despite a niggling injury used the cold conditions to his advantage. He came through a few tight exchanges early on, going 2-0 up before losing a game. In the forth he regained control, this time using his hall-mark combination of control and drop-lob tactics to ensure that Kenilworth regained the lead.

Hugo Diamond continued his impressive form, sharpening up for the forthcoming Irish Nationals. He went 1-0 up before his awkward opponent, nicknamed the "dobber" for his uncanny ability of dobbing returns with his Inspector Gadget like reach. However, Hugo displayed good discipline and graft to win the game and register another victory for Kenilworth.

Chris Hall returned from a successful trip to Kenya in which he was able to boost his world rankings after an unlucky quarter final defeat against world number 84 Joel Hinds. In what is likely to be one of the easiest games of the season, Hally romped home 3-0, losing only 4 points in the process. This could have quite easily have been a 27-0 whitewash, as Hally sets himself for another PSA tournament in Tenerife next week.

A nice victory for Kenilworth setting the scene for next week when the planets in the squash universe align and the stars of Kenilworth and Edgbaston collide in next weeks table topping clash. For the victors, rewards will be plentiful, for the losers abject misery awaits. December 6th, Crackley Lane – Kenilworth vs. Edgbaston Prior – *an event like no other.*