

# **Reports for Squash and Racketball AGM**

## **23 October 2025**

- **Surrey League – Open & Vets**
- **Surrey League - Ladies**
- **Racketball**
- **Ebbisham Squash Championships**
- **Juniors**
- **Ebbisham Squash League**
  
- **Chairman's Report**

## **Surrey Cup Report - Alex Coonan – AGM 2025**

This report covers the Surrey Cup performances for the 2024–25 winter season and the 2025 summer season.

For many years, the club ran just two teams drawn from a relatively small, closed group of around fifteen members. Operating in the higher divisions was always challenging — even our second team often faced opponents whose #5 player was ranked 2,000 SquashLevels or higher. Last summer, we also learned that several regular team members would be playing fewer matches, or leaving the club altogether, which made maintaining the teams in their existing format increasingly difficult.

After some internal discussions and member polls, we decided to reposition the second team to make it more inclusive and drop it down a division. It was not straightforward to find a captain, particularly as many of the players likely to feature in the team were relatively new to Surrey Squash competitions. I ultimately stepped in to fill the role. Ideally, we would have started in Division 8, but due to league capacity, the team went into Division 7R.

We knew the season would be tough, but we had a reasonable pool of players with a good mix of experience and potential. The squad combined seasoned players like Peter Culver and Len Goss, newer team players such as Dariusz Subczynsky and Mark Travers, and some of our younger talent — Elliot Roberts, Maja Leese, and Max Tyree-Munne — creating a team with energy, promise, and depth.

Despite finishing at the bottom of the winter league table, I was hugely encouraged by the players' commitment and enthusiasm. Many matches were incredibly close, showing that the team could compete strongly even against more experienced sides. It was especially satisfying to see new team members growing into enthusiastic advocates for team squash. Max Tyree-Munne, in particular, exemplified this, volunteering to take on the captaincy for the summer season. That summer, the second team faced a similarly competitive league, finishing 7th out of 8. Several close matches highlighted the team's resilience, and a few new members helped

mitigate the impact of injuries that season. Overall, the team demonstrated that it could be competitive while also fostering a positive, inclusive environment for new and returning players alike.

The winter 2025/26 season brings fresh challenges, with a few players leaving — including Max returning to university. I was delighted to see Talha Aziz step up as the new captain. Taking on this role, particularly for a first season playing Surrey Squash at Ebbisham, is no small feat, and I hope all members support the team by responding promptly to availability requests, being flexible when the team is in need, offering lifts, marking and hosting opposition matches, and locking fixtures firmly in their calendars. Early in the season, assembling a full team is already proving challenging, underscoring the importance of participation and commitment. I strongly encourage both new players and those who haven't played team squash before to get involved — the experience is rewarding, social, and a great way to play in competitive yet friendly matches across other clubs.

The first team has maintained a more stable roster, featuring Ed Choate (our new club champion), myself, Dan Coffin, Matt Frampton, and captain Henry Strausser. Both seasons saw a solid performance, with 5th place finishes in winter (out of 8) and summer (out of 7). Each player contributed crucial wins and stepped up when the team needed it most, ensuring that the first team remained competitive throughout the seasons. Looking ahead to 2025/26, the roster is largely unchanged, with new member Brandon Stott joining as our new number 2, promising another tightly contested season.

Over the nine years I've had the privilege of overseeing the Surrey Cup teams, I've been continually inspired by the growth of players, the camaraderie in weekly matches, and the energy that new members bring to the club. I'll be stepping away from the committee and (temporarily) my membership, so this will be my final Surrey Cup report. The role has been immensely rewarding — from encouraging new players to experience team squash, to watching our regulars rise to the challenge week after week.

The future is bright. With keen young players like Talha and Max stepping into captaincy roles, a rejuvenated committee, and the ongoing guidance of our world-class coach Charlie Lee, the teams are in excellent hands. But it's worth remembering that a thriving squash club relies on all members playing their part — supporting initiatives, attending events, participating in leagues, and helping to nurture the next generation. Surrey Cup teams sit at the heart of our squash community, offering a platform to compete, develop, and enjoy the sport in a social, welcoming environment. I hope everyone continues to support the teams, both on and off the court, so that the club's success and community spirit continue to grow for years to come.

## Results analysis of Surrey Open and Vets by Dan Coffin

| Winter |     |          |           |               |
|--------|-----|----------|-----------|---------------|
|        | Div | Finish   | # players | Top           |
| Ebbs 1 | 5R  | ...5/8 → | 11        | Alex C 12/14  |
| Ebbs 2 | 7R  | ...8/8 ↓ | 18        | Max 11/14     |
| Vets 1 | 2   | ...6/7 ↓ | 12        | Chris G 8/14  |
| Vets 2 | 5   | ...2/7 ↑ | 16        | Simon E 11/12 |
| Vets 3 | 5   | ...5/7 → | 15        | Raj 10/12     |

| Summer |        |           |              |
|--------|--------|-----------|--------------|
| Div    | Finish | # players | Top          |
| 5B     | ...5/8 | 10        | Alex C 11/12 |
| 7R     | ...7/8 | 15        | Max 11/14    |

| 2025/26 so far |                           |
|----------------|---------------------------|
| Div            | Status                    |
| Div 5R         | 6th of 8 but game in hand |
| Div 8          | 1st                       |
| Div 3          | 2nd                       |
| Div 4          | 3rd / 5                   |
| Div 5          | 6th / 6                   |

### Number of games played in Winter / summer 2024/2025 now out:

#### OPEN

##### INJURED

John Brandon – played 3  
 Peter culver – played 6  
 John McNicholas – played 2  
 Ian Baker  
 Rob Wellard – played 1  
 Jonny Major  
 Dariusz - 13

25 games or 5-6 entire  
 fixtures

##### UNAVAILABLE

Elliot Roberts - played 10  
 Len Goss – played 5  
 Ian Horner – played 10  
 Max – played 11  
 Alex Coonan – played 23  
 59 games or 12-15 entire fixtures

#### VETS

##### INJURED

John Brandon – played 4  
 Peter culver – played 4  
 Ian Baker – played 11  
 Rob Wellard – played 12  
 Dariusz – played 5  
 John McNicholas

36 games or 9 fixtures

##### UNAVAILABLE

Len Goss – played 8  
 Ian Horner – played 9  
 17 games or 4 fixtures

## **LADIES SQUASH CAPTAIN'S REPORT 2024/25 – GILLIAN MEAD**

### **Summer Ladies 2024:**

**Division 2:** We came third in Division 2, out of six teams.

**Team Members:** Gillian Mead, Jo Robinson, & Anna Wilkinson. Maja Leese, Lara Krnic, Cara Fong, India Smith, (juniors).

### **Winter Ladies 2024/2025:**

**Division 2:** (only two divisions in Surrey). We came top of Division 2, 30 points ahead of the next team. We played 13 matches, lost only one. There were 8 teams in the Division.

**Team Members:** Maja Leese, Lara Krnic, Cara Fong, India Smith, (juniors). Gillian Mead, Jo Robinson.

Unfortunately for the Summer of 2025 there were not enough willing members to field a team. Lara was concentrating on her A levels and travelling. Maja had been taken by Surbiton with the promise of playing in Division 1, and the other juniors were tied up with too many other commitments.

There was a hope that we could get a team for Winter 25/26, but with Lara gone, and Maja now concentrating on her A levels and the other juniors committed to their schools and other teams it was not possible to get a team together.

Very sad after certainly Jo and I playing for the teams for probably 35 years or more. Would be great to get a ladies team again, but I am not hopeful that it will happen.

Gillian Mead

Ladies Squash Captain

21<sup>st</sup> October 2025

# Racketball Report to the AGM Oct 2025

## 1 Racketball Tournament

Once again, this year's racketball tournament was organised by Paul Mewitt. There were three competitions (each with a corresponding plate competition); the number of entrants in each competition were:

Open: 13 (last year: 21)

Handicap: 14 (last year: 23)

Doubles: 10 pairs (last year: 8 pairs)

Although it was encouraging to note an increase in entrants for the doubles tournament, it was very disappointing to see a drop in entrants of one-third for both the open and the handicap tournaments. It's not at all clear why this was the case so we need to put on our thinking caps before next year's tournament

Notwithstanding that, with one exception, the Championships were successfully completed with the finals played on 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> October. The handicap final had to be postponed due to an injury to one of the players and will be played on a date to be determined. The results were:

- Open: Winner: Pete Banfield, runner up: Scott King
- Open Plate : Winner: Colin Wood, runner up: Richard Skinner
- Handicap: Final between Pete Banfield and Ian Conibear to be arranged
- Handicap Plate: Winner: Chris Taylor, runner up: Ken Scott
- Doubles: Winners: Paul Carrell & Scott King, runners up: Nathen Newark & Pete Banfield
- Doubles Plate: Dave Riches & Richard Skinner, runners up: Steve Herridge & Simon Edwards

## 2 Drawn Doubles Tournament

Following last year's championships, a poll was taken by Paul Mewitt on possible changes to the doubles competition. The outcome was not to make any changes but, instead, to run a new competition of drawn doubles in May/June; the organisers were Nathen Newark, Pete Banfield, Paul Carrell and Chris Taylor.

Pairings were made on the basis of average league positions with players from the top quartile paired with players from the fourth quartile and players from the second quartile paired with players from the third quartile. Twenty-four players entered the competition and they were divided into two leagues with 6 pairs in each league. The two top pairs in the two leagues were to play off in a knock out finale. Unfortunately, two semi-final pairs had to withdraw and the remaining two pairs played off in the final: Chris Taylor & Kevin Blythen beat Dave Riches & Simon Edwards. The organisers will consider whether or not to take further steps to concluded this completion or to declare Chris and Kevin as champions for 2025.

The general consensus was that the competition was very much enjoyed by everyone, that it was a resounding success and thanks and congratulations are due to the organisers.

## 2 Racketball Teams

As in previous seasons, Ebbisham fielded two teams in both the winter and summer Surrey Racketball Leagues. The 1<sup>st</sup> team was organised by Winston Heppolette and the 2<sup>nd</sup> team by James Dubois.

In the winter leagues 24/25, the 1<sup>st</sup> team competed in Social Division 2 finishing 2<sup>nd</sup> of four teams by winning four and losing two of our matches – six points behind the winners.

Meanwhile, the 2<sup>nd</sup> team competed in Social Division 3 finishing top of five teams by winning seven and losing one of our matches – 11 points clear of the runners up.

In the summer leagues 2025, the 1<sup>st</sup> team competed in Social Division 1 finishing 2<sup>nd</sup>, 22 points behind (that pain in the backside) Cheam. Meanwhile, the 2<sup>nd</sup> team competed in Social Division 2 finishing 3<sup>rd</sup> of four teams by winning two and losing four.

Ebbisham has again entered two teams in the coming winter season with the 1<sup>st</sup> team placed in division 1 and the 2<sup>nd</sup> team in division 3. Matches commence at the end of this month.

Following last year when all players competing in the matches had to pay their own England Squash Membership to be eligible to play, this year, they were required to re-register with Surrey Squash to remain eligible to play. All Ebbisham racketball players who wish to play for the team have duly registered.

### **3 Racketball Leagues**

The number of players in the leagues have varied between 26 and 30 and is currently at 27 players. There continues to be a very high proportion of league matches played.

Normally, each league contains five players with one player being promoted and relegated each month. However, a change was introduced in the Apr/May leagues which saw an increase in league 1 to six players with two players promoted and relegated between leagues 1 and 2. The change has, so far, proved successful and was graciously welcomed by the regular league 1 players and it allowed an extra player to savour dizzy heights.

Winston Heppollette

## **EBBISHAM SQUASH CHAMPIONSHIP 2025 – GILLIAN MEAD**

Number of Entrants

|                      | 2024 | 2025      |
|----------------------|------|-----------|
| <b>Open</b>          | 21   | <b>15</b> |
| <b>Handicap</b>      | 23   | <b>14</b> |
| <b>Ladies</b>        | 4    | <b>5</b>  |
| <b>Mixed Doubles</b> | 2    | <b>4</b>  |
| <b>Open Doubles</b>  | 8    | <b>4</b>  |
| <b>Vets</b>          | 12   | <b>7</b>  |
| <b>Vintage</b>       | 8    | <b>6</b>  |

## **Squash Juniors Report 2024-25 – Paul Steward – AGM 2025**

Two junior sessions (1.5 hours each) run every Saturday during school terms aimed at beginners, potentials and improvers. The two sessions are run by Paul Steward (Level 2 Coach), Imogen Wood (Level 2 Coach) and occasionally Matthew Marsden (Level 2 Coach). Ethan Saunders (one of the juniors) also helps to organise activities in the earlier session as part of his Duke of Edinburgh volunteering.

Junior members pay upfront for each term equating to £5 per session if all sessions are attended. The club offers a £10 drop-in fee, payable on the day at the bar, for non-members to attend the junior sessions subject to spare capacity in the sessions. Compared to other Surrey clubs this remains exceptionally good value for a weekly 1.5hour coaching and playing session.

Attendance figures for each term are presented below:

### **Autumn Term 2024 – 13 Sessions**

Group 1 (potentials) 1000-1130hrs:

18 juniors listed, maximum attendance per week 16, average attendance per week 13

Group 2 (improvers) 1130-1300hrs:

14 juniors listed, maximum attendance per week 12, average attendance per week 8

### **Spring Term 2025 – 10 Sessions**

Group 1 (potentials) 1000-1130hrs:

14 juniors listed, maximum attendance per week 13, average attendance per week 11

Group 2 (improvers) 1130-1300hrs:

21 juniors listed, maximum attendance per week 15, average attendance per week 12

### **Summer Term 2025 – 10 Sessions**

Group 1 (potentials) 1000-1130hrs:

16 juniors listed, maximum attendance per week 16, average attendance per week 11

Group 2 (improvers) 1130-1300hrs:

22 juniors listed, maximum attendance per week 14, average attendance per week 11

### **Autumn Term 2025 – 14 Sessions**

Currently in progress, statistics provided up to and including 18th October 2025 (i.e. half term).

Group 1 (potentials) 1000-1130hrs:

12 juniors listed, maximum attendance per week 12, average attendance per week 10

Group 2 (improvers) 1130-1300hrs:

13 juniors listed, maximum attendance per week 13, average attendance per week 9

Total junior numbers started at 32 (Autumn 2024), peaked at 38 (Summer 2025) and have dropped to 25 (Autumn 2025). Several of the most experienced juniors have now left the 2<sup>nd</sup> session due to starting university, Saturday jobs, playing at other clubs or graduating into the adult leagues. As a result, numbers in both sessions are currently lower (this includes juniors moved up into the 2<sup>nd</sup> session). We must continue to market and add new juniors into the earlier session to maintain the target head count of 30-40. The Surrey Cup Juniors League restarted October 2024 and Ebbisham entered two junior teams into the U14 and U17 leagues. Each team played 4 matches (1 home / 3 away) on Sunday afternoons between October 2024 and March 2025. This proved a great opportunity for some of our less experienced juniors to play competitive interclub matches. The U14s finished 3<sup>rd</sup> out of 4 teams and the U17s team finished 2<sup>nd</sup> out of 4 teams in their respective divisions.

Ebbisham has entered 3 junior teams into the Surrey Cup Juniors League 2025-26.

Surrey Squash has changed the age ranges, so our teams are now U11, U15 and U19. As before matches will be played on Sunday afternoons once per month.

The 2025 junior club championships were held during the Spring term 2025, full results are displayed upstairs between courts 1 and 2. Congratulations to Ewan Davenport for winning the boys U19 & U17 tournaments, Maja Leese for winning the girls U19 tournament and Cali Bessant for winning the girls U17 tournament. The 2026 tournament will be scheduled to start in January to ensure that the finals are played on the same day as the adult championship finals.

Best wishes,

Paul Steward, England Squash Level 2 Coach

## **Ebbisham Squash League Report to the AGM Oct 2025**

League participant numbers are at 25 which is a drop of 2 from last year so not significant. However, they are down from 36 in Oct 2023 and we are more than 50% down in Oct 2019 (52). I recommend that the Squash Committee look at ways to increase membership in the leagues as the leagues add a lot to the club's fabric and revenue.

If anyone has any feedback as to how to get more members to join the leagues, then we are open to any ideas you have.

**Damian Smith - League Organiser**

## **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT – AGM 2025 – RAJEEVA INDIKETIYA**

Welcome, Ebbisham Squash Members, to the Annual General Meeting (AGM) 2025!

It is wonderful to see everyone gathered here today as we look back on another year of progress, competition, and community.

We are pleased to report that the Squash Committee has published several newsletters this year. These newsletters keep all members informed about the latest club news, upcoming events, match results, and other important announcements.

Thank you to Paul, our editor. But unfortunately, Paul has moved, and we are looking for a new editor to continue the newsletter. So please come forward if you can help in this regard.

Our senior coach, Charlie Lee, has already made a significant impact on our members with his expertise and passion for the game. He conducts regular coaching sessions and offers valuable training for players of all levels.

This year, we fully refurbished squash court two, giving it a much-needed upgrade. Special thanks to Paul Carrel for his key role in organising and supervising the entire project. To keep our facilities in excellent condition, we plan to completely rebuild squash court one next year.

While we've had many successes this year, addressing some challenges is essential. Unfortunately, our Adult Peak membership has decreased to around 89 members. This is a reminder to actively promote our club and grow our community. This year has been very challenging in terms of putting forward teams for the Surrey Cup, Ladies, Vets' and vintage teams. We need to monitor player availability and decrease the number of teams next year if participation does not improve.

We encourage all members to help by spreading the word—bring your friends, family, and colleagues to experience the fun of squash and Racketball.

It's with great sadness that I see Alex and Paul leaving the squash committee due to personal reasons. But they will continue to support squash in other ways. I would like to thank them both for their service and commitment to Ebbisham.

We did send a request to members to join the Squash committee, and I am pleased to announce that we received some positive responses. In the coming months, I will be handing over the Chairmanship to a new member who will join the committee. I will continue to serve as a committee member, contributing, organising teams, focusing on facilities, and raising grant money.

I want to thank the Squash Management Committee members for their tremendous dedication and time in supporting the club. They are volunteers who devote countless

hours behind the scenes to ensure everything runs smoothly—from organising events to maintaining facilities and much more.

We all sincerely appreciate your passion and hard work and are incredibly grateful for your ongoing contributions to Ebbisham Squash's success. Thank you!

A big thank you also goes to the office staff for their ongoing support of the squash section. Your help with managing daily operations, assisting with communications, and ensuring everything runs smoothly is extremely valuable to us. And not to forget the ever-smiling bar members for their services.

We truly appreciate all that you do to help our squash community.

Lastly, the success of our squash and Racketball section is genuinely due to every one of you. Your participation, enthusiasm, and commitment to Ebbisham have made our club a vibrant and welcoming community.

Thank you for being an integral part of our squash family. We look forward to continuing this journey together and achieving even greater things!