10U Girls County Cup Event Match Report

Qualifying 10/11 May – Burnham-on-Sea

<u>Captains – Ali Blackett & Pete Evans</u>

Our 10U girls have had a brilliant County Cup run, storming the qualifying competition and putting up a great fight in the South Finals. Our amazing team was made up of Scarlett Blair, An Minimakawa, Violet George, Farrah Burns-Smith, Marli DuPrez and Jocelyn Belford.



The sun was out, and the girls were ready and raring to go at the qualifying event. The venue was perfect with the girls able to support each other brilliantly and get a bit of table tennis against Pete in and around matches!

We were favourites for this group and the girls showed that with an impeccable performance against all counties.

We competed against Cornwall, Devon and Somerset with all 6 players getting to compete in singles and doubles rubbers across the weekend.

Final qualifying results were:

Avon v Cornwall 5-1 (win)

Avon V Devon 6-0 (win)

Avon V Somerset 6-0 (win)

Lots of great tennis and lots of fun had down in Burnham and worthy qualifiers for the South Finals!

Finals 7/8 June – Oxstalls (Gloucester)





The team headed to Gloucester for the South Finals versus some very strong sides in Berkshire, Kent, Surrey and Middlesex.

Saturday - Berkshire and Kent

Our first fixture was against Berkshire and Farrah and Violet kicked off the finals at 3 and 4 singles. Both played great tennis with Farrah picking up a rubber at 4 in a 10 point tiebreak decider. Scarlett, An and Violet all played the other singles with unfortunately all of them going Berkshire's way. On to the doubles with two incredible matches with An and Marli at 2nd pair and Scarlett and Violet at 1st pair. Both matches went to 10 point tiebreaks with 1st pair losing out 10-4 but 2nd pair clinching the win 11-9! End result 2-4 to Berkshire.

The second fixture we took on Kent. The singles line up was Scarlett, An, Violet and Jocelyn. The girls continued to be super competitive and fought hard but we didn't pick up any rubbers and finished the singles 0-4. The doubles again was tightly fought with Violet and Marli taking their pair to tiebreak in the 2nd set and Farrah and Jocelyn taking theirs to a tiebreak in the 1st set. Final result 0-6 to Kent.

Sunday - Surrey and Middlesex

The line up verses Surrey was Scarlett, An, Violet and Marli for singles and then Violet and An and Jocelyn and Marli for the doubles. Again there was some great tennis and closely fought matches for example An taking her opponent to a tiebreak in the 1st set and Jocelyn and Marli doing the same in the doubles but we couldn't quite clinch a rubber against the eventual winning county and the end result was 0-6.

Our final opposition was Middlesex, another very strong county that ended up finishing the competition in 2nd place. Singles lineup remained the same as earlier in the day with Scarlett, An, Violet and Marli playing those rubbers. Scarlett played a fantastic match at number 1 but lost out 4-2, 4-2 and Middlesex also took the other singles matches. Jocelyn and Farrah teamed up but couldn't break the strong Middlesex pair. Scarlett and An came close in the first set, getting to a tie break again but it was not to be and the final result was 0-6.

The girls were absolutely fantastic over these 2 days. The days were long, and it was at a venue that was very hard to support your teammates as closely as we would like but they got down on court to support whenever they could. The girls agreed before the finals that we were all going to work hard and have fun over the weekend, and they could each tell us something they were proud of at the end of each day. Their energy and effort stayed at the highest levels in every fixture despite how difficult they were; an incredible Avon performance all around. Well done girls!