

14U Boys LTA County Cup 2024 – Hassocks Southern qualifying event

Captains: Martyn Bray / Rob Hawkins

Boys: Ollie, Tobiasz, Jack, Arthur, Tommy, Reuben

Our Avon boys travelled to Hassocks to play at Weald LTC, near Brighton. Playing in the southern qualifying event, where only 6 teams were invited, it was going to be tough. Although the country's top 6 teams get automatic acceptance into national finals, the next best 12, were in our event at 2 separate venues. So 60% of the counties, just play a non-qualifying event, due to disappointing LTA changes in the events structure.

So we kicked off against a strong Hampshire side, fielding 2 players in around the top 20 in the country. A good battle but a 4-2 loss, with 2 great wins in doubles, but 3 sets in singles lost on tie breaks.

Next was Kent the following day, and a similar result but a strong win for Ruben and again many close matches finished by tie breaks and the match could easily have gone to the shootout.

The last match was against Dorset and a convincing 6-0 win, with wins from all 6 members of the team.

Hants were the best team, but if we'd played them on the last day, we could possibly have scraped a victory, but they were very consistent throughout their top 4. All of our boys competed very well in one of the 2 sets.

A fun time was had by all, including Rob and I, and good golf was played too. Well done Jack (Hardman) Nicklaus! Rob and I agreed, perhaps one of the best behaved groups we've ever taken away.

