

GIRLS 14U COUNTY CUP FINALS

Nottingham - 15 - 17th May 2026



Captain's Report

The Avon 14U Girls team, Emma, Eloise, Emilia, Eleanor, Valentina & Ayesha, travelled to Nottingham to compete in the LTA County Cup Finals, one of the most prestigious junior team competitions in the country. Bringing together the top counties nationally, the event was played across both indoor and outdoor courts, requiring the players to show adaptability, resilience, and strong team cohesion throughout.

Day 1 AM – Strong Start vs Essex

Avon began their campaign indoors against Essex and made an excellent start, securing a 4–2 victory. Several of the singles matches were extremely close, particularly in the middle of the line-up. Eleanor was unfortunate to narrowly lose in a third-set match tie-break, while Emilia showed fantastic composure to come through her own match tie-break successfully. At the top of the team, Eloise delivered an outstanding performance, winning both her singles and doubles matches to lead from the front.

Day 1 PM - Battle with East of Scotland

In the afternoon, the team moved outdoors to face East of Scotland in challenging windy conditions. This tie featured multiple tight matches with numerous tie-breaks. Emma competed in a high-level battle at number one but was just edged out in a third-set match tie-break. After the singles, the match was finely balanced at 2–2, with the doubles being scheduled for the following day to determine the winner of the tie.

Day 2 AM – Fine Margins vs East of Scotland

On Day 2, the team returned to complete the doubles against East of Scotland outdoors. Both pairs competed strongly and created opportunities, with each match going to a third-set match tie-break. Despite having chances to close out both matches, Avon narrowly missed out, resulting in a 2–4 defeat in a contest ultimately decided by the finest of margins.



Day 2 PM - Strong Response vs Middlesex

Later that day, Avon faced Middlesex in another closely contested tie. The singles matches were hard-fought and ended level at 2–2, once again leaving the doubles to decide the outcome. The team responded brilliantly, showing great resilience, excellent teamwork, and strong fighting spirit. Both doubles pairs held their nerve in tight tie-break situations, securing both rubbers and earning a well-deserved victory over Middlesex. It was a performance that highlighted the group's ability to bounce back after disappointment.

Day 3 – 3rd/4th Place Play-Off vs Lancashire

On the final day, Avon competed against Lancashire in the 3rd/4th place play-off. The singles matches were extremely competitive, with very little separating the players. Avon were unfortunate to lose two matches in deciding match tie-breaks, leaving them 1–3 down after the singles despite the closeness of the contests. The scoreline did not fully reflect how tight the matches were, with small margins once again proving decisive.

Heading into the doubles, the team showed excellent determination and continued to fight strongly as a unit. Both matches were closely contested and featured more tight tie-breaks, reflecting the consistently high level of competition across the weekend. Despite their efforts and continued support for one another, Avon were unable to convert the key moments and narrowly lost both doubles matches.

Team Culture and Overall Performance

Throughout the entire event, the Avon team demonstrated excellent team spirit and professionalism. The players consistently supported each other on and off the court and maintained a positive attitude, while also recognising that developing greater resilience and learning from these experiences will be important as they continue to progress. The 2026 County Cup Finals provided a fantastic high-performance experience for the Avon 14U Girls team. Across the three days, they achieved a strong opening win against Essex, competed in a narrowly decided contest with East of Scotland, produced a resilient and impressive victory over Middlesex, and delivered a highly competitive performance against Lancashire in the 3rd/4th place play-off. The team finished an excellent 4th place overall, a significant achievement at a national level. Overall, the players showed great commitment, resilience, and a strong team culture, demonstrating that they can compete with the best counties in the country.