



County Champs: Notts seize Junior crown

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The Junior Premier Division matches were held on December 14 and 15 at the Westfield Table Tennis Club in Wellingborough, where Nottinghamshire emerged victorious.

The Division comprised eight teams: Cheshire, Devonshire, Durham, Kent, Glamorgan, Lancashire, Nottinghamshire, and Surrey. Unfortunately, Glamorgan had to withdraw their team, leaving the rest to battle it out.

On Saturday there were three rounds of matches, with Surrey and Nottinghamshire starting strongly with a 7-3 & 6-4 win against Cheshire and Devonshire respectively. Holders Lancashire were held to a draw by Kent.

In Round 2 there were wins for Nottinghamshire (8-2) against Durham and Lancashire (6-4) against Devonshire. Kent battled to another draw, this time against Surrey.

In the last round of matches, Nottinghamshire established themselves as firm favourites with an emphatic win over Cheshire (10-0). Devon beat Durham 7-3 and Surrey had to settle for a second draw of the day, with Lancashire. The table at the end of the day was as follows:

County	Played	Won	Draw	Lost	SF	SA	GF	GA	Pts
Nottinghamshire	3	3	0	0	24	6	80	22	6
Surrey	3	1	2	0	17	13	62	42	4
Lancashire	3	1	2	0	16	14	59	54	4
Kent	2	0	2	0	10	10	37	43	2
Devonshire	3	1	0	2	15	15	55	61	2
Cheshire	2	0	0	2	3	17	8	53	0
Durham	2	0	0	2	5	15	25	51	0
Glamorgan	WITHDRAWN								

On Sunday morning Nottinghamshire continued where they had finished the previous evening with another fine win over Surrey, 7-3. Lancashire beat Durham 9-1 and Kent beat Cheshire 8-2. In the late morning session, Kent drew with Devon, and there were wins for Lancashire, 8-2 over Cheshire, and Surrey, 6-4 over Durham.

In the afternoon Surrey beat Devon 7-3, Nottinghamshire beat Kent 8-2 and Durham beat Cheshire 9-1 in the battle to avoid relegation.

The final session of the day saw the top two teams Nottinghamshire and Lancashire play each other. Mathematically, it was possible for Lancashire to retain their crown, but they would have to beat their rivals by a huge margin. A number of sets went the full distance and the teams drew, meaning Nottinghamshire were crowned champions.

Kent had their fourth draw of the weekend against Durham and Devon beat Cheshire who were already relegated.

The final table is shown below:

County	Played	Won	Draw	Lost	SF	SA	GF	GA	Pts
Nottinghamshire	6	5	1	0	44	16	154	59	11
Lancashire	6	3	3	0	38	22	126	100	9
Surrey	6	3	2	1	33	27	119	102	8
Kent	6	1	4	1	30	30	110	113	6
Devonshire	6	2	1	3	30	30	115	116	5
Durham	6	1	1	4	24	36	100	128	3
Cheshire	6	0	0	6	11	49	54	160	0
Glamorgan	WITHDRAWN								

Ken Elliot presented the trophies to the champions and runners-up.



The runners-up from Lancashire

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