

# England miss out on top-flight positions

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Luke Savill

England's Cadet and Junior teams have finished 19<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> respectively at the European Youth Championships in Italy, missing out on a place in the top division for next year.

The Cadet line-up of Tom Jarvis and Luke Savill dug deep to beat Greece 3-2, Savill getting the crucial victory in the final match, taking the fifth and final end 11-3 after twice being pegged back by Efstratios Damanias.

They then suffered a 3-2 reverse against Lithuania. Both Tom and Luke won their singles matches against Medardas Stankevicius but both lost to Remas Livas, but Lithuania took the pivotal doubles match 14-12 in the fifth.

The final match saw a relatively straightforward 3-1 win over Switzerland, with both boys winning their opening singles 3-0. After the doubles had been lost in four, Tom beat Dimitri Brunner to seal the victory.

Meanwhile, the juniors lost their final match 3-2 to Belgium. Danny Lawrence went down to Martin Allegro but Helshan Weerasinghe leveled with victory over Arthur Billas.

Adam Harrison then came from 2-0 down to beat Thibault Darcis in the fifth, only for Weerasinghe and Lawrence to both lose their reverse singles in four.

The doubles and singles events get under way today.

**By Paul Stimpson (16th July, 2014)**

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