

## Jarvis and Ho are triple champions!

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Tom Jarvis and Tin-Tin Ho won all the titles between them on a pulsating day one of the Cadet & Junior Nationals in Huddersfield.

Having together taken the Mixed Doubles crown, they teamed up with Alex Ramsden and Emily Bolton respectively to seal the Boys' and Girls' Doubles titles.

And they ended the day with straight-sets wins in the singles finals – Jarvis overcoming his partner Ramsden and Ho defeating surprise finalist Mollie Patterson.

It means Tin-Tin Ho has added all three Junior titles to the three Senior titles she won in Hatfield at the PG Mutual National Championships in March – believed to be the first time anyone has held all six titles simultaneously.

#### Click here to read Sunday's Cadet report

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# **Boys' Singles**

Tom Jarvis was in dominant form, never more so than in the final, when he had all the answers against Alex Ramsden in a brilliant 11-3, 11-4, 11-5, 11-6 victory.

It capped a memorable day and a memorable season for Jarvis – who had previously won the Under-21 title at the PG Mutual Nationals, where he also reached the Men's Singles semi-finals, and the Junior National Cup.

"I'm over the moon," said Jarvis. "At the start of the day winning all three titles was in the back of my mind, and I got what I came here for.

"The last few times I've played Alex, it's been difficult but I raised my game today and played the best I could.

"This year has been absolutely unbelievable, the best year I could have hoped for."

Arguably the match of the day came in the semi-finals when Ramsden came from 3-1 down to beat Luke Savill.

The pair, seeded three and two respectively, traded blows in a series of scintillating rallies, with same fabulous retrieving on both sides of the table.

When Savill moved 3-1 ahead, it was the cue for Ramsden to receive a yellow card for hitting a barrier with his bat. But it also proved a turning point as the left-hander begun to claw his way back on claim the win by a scoreline of 14-12, 8-11, 9-11, 9-11, 11-8, 11-6.

Match point as Alex Ramsden comes from 3-1 down to beat Luke Savill <u>#TTNationals</u> <u>pic.twitter.com/JztcOonmtY</u>

- Table Tennis England (@TableTennisENG) April 30, 2016

Jarvis was serene in the other semi, seeing off Josh Bennett in four – as he had Shaquille Webb-Dixon in the quarters. In the other quarters, Bennett and Ramsden needed six against James Smith and Matt Leete respectively, while Savill beat Ben Cawston in four straight.

Webb-Dixon had come from 2-0 down to beat James Hobson 4-2 in a dynamic match in the last 16, but the tie of the round was undoubtedly Cawston's seven-set victory over Alec Ward.

Cawston saw a 3-0 lead evaporate as Ward looked to have all the momentum going into the decider, but it was Cawston who stayed stronger to seal it 4-3 (11-7, 11-7, 12-10, 8-11, 5-11, 3-11, 11-9).

In the morning's group stage, Smith upset Josh Harland in Group 7, beating him 3-1 (13-11, 9-11, 11-5, 11-3), though Harland went through by virtue of victories over Will Hornsey and Artur Caltabiano.

Countback was needed to decide the Group 4 runner-up behind Josh Bennett, the other three all finishing tied on matches and games. They all went to five – James Garrod beating James Chappell, Chappell beating Jimmy Yeung and Yeung overcoming Garrod. In the end, Yeung got the verdict on points scored.

In Group 5, Olly Tyndall beat the group's second seed Billy Forster 10, 6, 10 to join winner Leete in the knockout stage.

And spare a thought for Ethan Walsh, whose three matches in Group 3 all went to five. First, he beat Ben Foster 15-13 in the decider, then had a belter against Ramsden, eventually going down 11-4, 10-12, 7-11, 15-13, 10-12. The final five-setter against Shayan Siraj saw Siraj win to send the runners-up spot to countback – Foster following Ramsden through.

### **Girls' Singles**

Tin-Tin Ho now owns six National titles – all three Junior and all three Senior – with only the Under-21s eluding her this season.

She defeated a spirited Mollie Patterson in the final in four sets, but Patterson was far from disgraced by the scoreline of 12-10, 11-9, 11-5, 11-6.

"I must admit I did feel a bit under pressure in the final," admitted Ho, "but I was confident having beaten her in the groups and I managed to find my form.

"It was nice to win it in my last year of Juniors and it's been a great season."

In the earlier rounds, the bottom half of the draw threw up two surprise results. Beth Farnworth – already enjoying a good day having knocked out third seed Denise Payet in the groups – added fourth seed Kate Cheer to her list of scalps.

It went the distance as Cheer battled back from 3-1 down before Farnworth took it 4-3 (11-3, 9-11, 11-2, 11-7, 7-11, 9-11, 11-8).

At the same time, Patterson was sending second seed Emily Bolton out of the event with a 4-2 (11-8, 11-9, 4-11, 12-10, 7-11, 11-6) victory.

No such drama in the semi-finals, though, as Ho blew away Charlotte Bardsley and Patterson also only needed four against Farnworth, including a first-game whitewash.

In the morning, the surprise of the first stage came in Group 3 where Payet, the group's top seed, was eliminated by Bardsley and Farnworth.

The key result was Farnworth's 3-2 victory over Payet, shading it 10-12, 11-7, 9-11, 11-9, 13-11.

Bardsley, meanwhile, only dropped one game, to Farnworth, and saw off Payet in three straight (11-8, 13-11, 11-9), meaning Payet's earlier comeback win from 2-0 down to Amy Blagbrough counted for nothing in the end.

Countback was needed in Group 4, where Cheer, McMullan and Jasmin Wong all won two matches.

In the event, it was the youngest, Wong, who was eliminated having lost in three straight to Cheer, while both other girls had picked up a set in their defeat – McMullan to Wong and Cheer to McMullan.

Ho made it safely through against Tiana Dennison and Patterson – the group's fourth player Gauri Duhan having withdrawn through illness.

Humphreys upset Zahna Hall in Group 2 to go through with Bolton.

### **Boys' Doubles**

Top seeds Tom Jarvis & Alex Ramsden overcame Matt Leete and Josh Bennett in a four-set final.

When the second seeds took the second game to level the match, it looked as if they could upset the odds.

But the top pair got their noses back in front and then held their nerve in a tight fourth to take it 13-11, 6-11, 11-5, 12-10.

On the way to the final, Jarvis & Ramsden saw off Ben Foster & Olly Tyndall 3-0 in the quarters but needed four against Harry Dai & Shayan Siraj in the semis.

Bennett & Leete came through in three in both earlier matches, against Carl Baldry & Zac Dowling followed by Alec Ward & James Hobson.

Ward & Hobson had been involved in a tight quarter-final, seeing younger opponents James Smith & Ethan Walsh come from 2-0 down to level before the older pair took the deciding fifth 11-8.

Ramsden said: "We've only played together a few times but our games complement each other and we work really well together. It was really good to win our first National title together."

#### **Girls' Doubles**

Top seeds Tin-Tin Ho & Emily Bolton were too strong for last year's Cadet champions Kate Cheer & Denise Payet, powering to a 3-0 triumph.

The only moment of minor inconvenience came at 3-1 down in the second game, but the overall scoreline of 11-2, 11-4, 11-6 tells the tale of dominance.

Ho & Bolton had a bye in the first round but had to come from behind in the semi-final against Zahna Hall & Amy Humphreys, winning it 3-1 (6-11, 11-3, 11-5, 11-9).

Payet & Cheer saw off Amy Blagbrough & Letitia McMullan in three and also needed four in the semi-finals as they defeated Beth Farnworth & Amy Hutchings 3-1 (6-11, 11-6, 11-4, 11-6).

Bolton said: "We haven't played together much apart from the Italian Youth Open (where they got the silver medal) and we followed on from that and we executed when we needed to."

Ho added: "Even though we haven't played together for a while, we're always comfortable with each other's games."

### **Mixed Doubles**

Top seeds beat second seeds as Tom Jarvis & Tin-Tin Ho overcame Luke Savill & Emily Bolton in four.

The top pair – playing together for the first time in a tournament – took the first with ease and then went 2-1 ahead after Savill & Bolton had upped their games to level. The fourth saw Jarvis & Ho pegged back from 7-3 to 7-7, before a time-out did the trick as they took the next four points to seal it 3-1 (11-3, 9-11, 11-8, 11-7).

"It was good to win our first mixed doubles together," said Ho. "We haven't played together before, so we didn't know what it was going to be like, although we were confident.

"We knew it was going to be tough against Emily and Luke but we managed to find a way."

Jarvis added: "We knew that if we played well we had a good chance of winning – and we clicked quickly and played well."

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