



Welsh takeaway at Cippenham Senior 2*

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Posted On: November 01, 2016

The seeding committee for the Cippenham Super 6 Senior 2-Star Open really got it right with the top four seeds all making it through to their allotted positions.

A high standard and competitive event concluded with a final match being contested by the top two ranked men in Wales and the match could hardly have been closer. Callum Evans eventually triumphed over Daniel O'Connell 12-10 in the fifth and deciding game having twice recovered from a game deficit.

Evans also survived a really tough semi-final against Frederico Viterbo, this time having to claw his way back from a 2-0 deficit. However, the match swung in the Welshman's favour in the third game and never thereafter reversed.

O'Connell's semi-final against Mitchell Jones was also hard fought, despite being 3-1, with the last two games decided by the narrowest of margins.

Defending champion Martin Gunn was a victim of Evans one round earlier, in the quarter-final, the stage at which Joshua Nashed, Marcin Pijanowski and Chris Bush also perished.

The Cippenham club's last survivors were Robert Hansell and Tom Windram. Both made it through their preliminary round groups and then won their first round matches in the knockout stage to make it to the last 16. At that stage, Hansell lost to Gunn, deuce in the fifth after having led 2-0, while Windram lost 3-1 to eventual finalist Daniel O'Connell.

The consolation event was won by Samson Bekele, who beat Alex Aston in a very closely fought final.

The tournament was organised by Paul Baker, refereed by Sue Hayes and was over-subscribed with some entries unfortunately having to be rejected.



Alex Aston (left) and Samson Bekele

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