

## St Ivo Open Racketball Championships 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2017.

The 2017 St Ivo Open Racketball championships was held on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> September at the One Leisure Outdoor Centre, St Ives.

Players from Peterborough, Hunts County, Cambridge and St Ivo contested the trophy. A couple of late withdrawals required a swift reorganisation of the draw and the knockout competition became a round robin with the winners of each group playing off. The good news was all the competitors got lots of enjoyable games. The bad news was it was best of 5 games so there were lots of tired legs out there.

The round robin matches saw a couple of surprises. In Group 1, Gary pipped Tanya 3-2 after some excellent play. Gary also demonstrates his continued improvement by getting a game off John, losing 3-1, a good result against a previous holder of the title. However, Sean proved too strong for Gary and Gary lost 3-0 against the experienced Racketball player from Hunts County.

Tanya played very well against John but he held on to win 3-0, and she had another epic game against Sean, losing 3-2. After her loss to Gary, Tanya was undeservedly bottom of the group given the fine Racketball skills she displayed.

The group winner was decided in the match between Sean and John. John took a quick 2-0 lead, but the third game was a lot tougher with Sean's tenacity and power shots starting to pay dividends. John just held on to win the game 12-10 and the match 3-0 to go through to the final.

In the other group, David found his first St Ivo Racketball Open a steep learning curve. His first game against Andy was a tough 3-0 loss, and Vicky also had too much for him beating the novice 3-0 with some excellent play. David now had his eye in and in his first game against Gordon, an experienced veteran of the game, David took a commanding lead, playing some brilliant stuff. A poor refereeing decision allowed Gordon back into the game and once his shots were starting to hit the nicks David could not answer. Gordon won 3-0.

Vicky pushed Gordon and Andy in her matches but her sole victory came against David.

The group was decided in a tough game between Gordon and Andy. Both players were moving well and displaying some brilliant shots, in the end Andy's greater consistency allowed him to hold off Gordon and he won the last two games to go through to the final, 3-1.

And so on to the final. John from St Ives against Andy from Peterborough. Both players were well supported. John had prevailed earlier in the season against Andy so started the favourite, and had soon took a 2-0 lead. Andy started to unleash some fantastic backhand corkscrew shots, and started to find a way into the match. The third game was very close but John held on to take the game 11-9, the match 3-0, and another St Ivo Racketball Open title.

Byron Williams would like to extend his gratitude to the sponsors. Chris Keeble (One Leisure St Ives), Will Moore (Moore Performance (Physio)), Danny Caulkett (St Ivo Squash Club). The prizes donated were appreciated by the players.

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St Ivo Open 2017  
**squash57**  
Championship 23 Sept.



Sean Brodrich & John Dewis



Andy Ruff & Vicky Sour



Gary Mason & Tanya Ruff



John in action forehand backhand



Andy & John



Gordon Lamb & Andy



John & Gary



Andy & Vicky



Sean & John



Gary & Tanya



Gordon & Vicky



St Ivo Open Racketball Championships 23.09.17.

Names

John Dewis

Gary Mason

David Garrod

Andy Ruff

Tanya Ruff

Victoria Soar

Sean Brodrick

Gordon Lamb