

Handicap Cup Quarter Final Results

Draycott Dragons 429 v 423 Hugglescote Hares

The Hares duo of John Lenton and Clive Stretton began this match with a 120 point handicap advantage, but Dragon's Dexter Fairbank started chipping away at the deficit by beating John 11-, 11-3, 11-6, 11-6 first up. Phil Coker then traded even blows with Clive, as they ended up with only a 1 point difference, after an 11-13, 10-12, 11-6, 11-7 result. The Dragons then took all four games in the first doubles to claw back another 21 points, and when Phil beat John 11-2, 11-7, 11-3, 11-4 and Dexter overcame Clive 11-2, 11-6, 11-6, 11-6, it reduced Hares' overall lead to just 20 points. With little room for error, Dexter and Phil combined once more to take the final doubles 11-4, 11-2, 11-9, 11-3 and advance the last four by the slenderest of margins.

Draycott Diamonds 442 v 404 Draycott Donkeys

Diamonds' Lucy Vernon & Helena Dicken added to their 60 point advantage as Lucy defeated Taylor Pearson 12-10, 9-11, 11-7, 11-4 in the opening set, only for Donkeys to hit back strongly as Georgios Gerakios beat Helena 11-, 11-6, 11-2, 11-6. Only three points separated the sides in the opening doubles, and when Taylor overcame Helena 9-11, 11-7, 11-9, 11-4 and Georgios triumphed over Lucy 11-9, 11-4, 15-13, 11-8, the Donkeys had really put themselves back in with a shout. However, it was the 'home' side who finished the stronger, as Lucy and Helena combined once more for a 13-15, 12-10, 11-8, 11-1 scoreline in the final doubles to put the match beyond doubt.

Charnwood Aggressors 474 v 493 Melbourne Swifts 'B'

League newcomers Melbourne Swifts 'B' continued their fine cup form, this time courtesy of Richard Hazzledine and Carl Barcock's performance against the Aggressor's pairing of Tony Geanta and Dom Cutter, albeit starting with a 72 point advantage. Richard got the visitors off to a great start in outscoring Tony by 41 points to 29, before Dom beat Carl 11-5, 11-5, 11-6, 13-11 to give the home team a foothold in the match. Tony and Dom took the first doubles for Aggressors by 43 points to 29 and when Dom defeated Richard 11-5, 11-5, 11-9, 11-6, they had clawed themselves back into contention. However, Tony could only outscore Carl by 1 point in the last singles set and, despite the Charnwood side taking the last doubles by 45 points to 33, it was too little too late, sending the Swifts into the semi finals.

Charnwood Foxes v Goons 'B'

Match conceded by Goons. Foxes advance to semi finals.

Handicap Cup Semi Final Results

Charnwood Foxes 635 v 608 Draycott Dragons

A closely fought encounter saw Charnwood Foxes come out on top, as the trio of Samuel Hall, Max Cherry and Alex Boon just managed to get the better of the Coker family members, Phil, Jasmin and Naomi, in a match that saw momentum shift from one set to the next. Trailing by 56 points on handicap, Jasmin began well by beating Samuel 11-7, 11-3, 11-5, 11-6, before Max hit back for the Foxes by defeating Naomi 11-5, 11-8, 11-7, 11-5. Phil and Jasmin then combined to win the first doubles 11-4, 11-8, 11-4, 12-10, before Max pegged the Dragons back again with an 11-8, 9-11, 14-12, 11-6 win over Jasmin. Sam and Naomi shared two games apiece to keep the advantage with the home team, and although Phil and Naomi teamed up to take the final doubles against Max and Alex, 11-9, 11-8, 10-12, 11-5, they had too much ground to make up, leaving the Foxes victorious.

Melbourne Swifts 'B' 475 v 466 Draycott Diamonds

Melbourne Swifts B's impressive debut in the Handicap Cup continued as Richard Hazzledine and Nathan Dumelow earned a narrow 9 point victory over Diamonds, to send them into their first final. The away team pairing of Jo and Anna Green began with a deficit of 96 points, but made good headway as Anna beat Richard 10-12, 11-7, 11-3, 11-3 and Jo overcame Nathan 11-7, 11-3, 11-6, 11-8, before taking the first doubles 11-8, 11-5, 11-7, 11-3. Melbourne's overall advantage was cut to just 14 points as Anna saw off Nathan 11-9, 11-4, 13-11, 11-9 and Jo defeated Richard 11-9, 11-8, 11-4, 11-7, but with all to play for in the final doubles, it was Swifts who held their nerve to share the games, 15-13, 8-11, 11-9, 5-11 and advance to the last two.