

FINALS' DAY REPORT

SUNDAY 09 SEPTEMBER 2007

Due to injury and illness the Aldershot & Farnham Tennis Tournament Finals were rather depleted in its number of matches, but this was more than compensated by the quality of the remaining matches that were held on Sunday (9th September 2007) at the Aldershot Tennis Centre.

First up was a repeat final of the past three years in the Men's singles with last year's champion Steven Bozas playing his doubles partner Gary Stanford. Both play at Aldershot Tennis Centre. This was never going to be an easy match to predict the outcome of. There was nothing to choose between them in the first set as each won their serve in the first 6 games. Stanford made some good passing shots and Bozas was accurate in his smashes. In the seventh game however Stanford was taken to deuce and this was all Bozas needed to win that game. With no further breaks of serve it was enough to give Bozas the first set. In the 2nd set Bozas romped ahead to a 5-1 lead and the match looked all but over. Stanford though had other ideas and crept back into the game taking the next three games. At this point Bozas obviously decided enough was enough and won his next service game without dropping a point. Bozas was champion again 6-4, 6-4.

After a break Bozas and Stanford teamed up in the doubles in an attempt to hold on to the Doubles Trophy. David Gill from Camberley LTC and Matt Marlow of Aldershot Methodists were their opponents for the second year in a row. There were some stylish rallies, which became fast and furious at times but luck was just not going Gill and Marlow's way. It seemed that the harder they tried the better Bozas and Stanford played and they took the match 6-2, 6-1.

The Ladies Singles pitched defending champion Betty Maitland from Elstead against Ann Holloway of Farnborough. Maitland made very good use of her drop shots, using them sparingly but very effectively. There were some excellent base line rallies, but Maitland had the edge in the first set winning it 6-3. In the second

set Holloway won the first two games, and then managed to lose the next five. However she wasn't giving up and battled on take the match into a tiebreak. This became a very close fought contest with the lead swinging first one way and then the other, and at one point Holloway had a set point. Maitland however had other ideas and took the next three points to win the match 8-6 on the tiebreak. Final score 6-3, 7-6.

The mixed doubles was between Kerry Stanton and Marilyn Dobie of Camberley against Andy Bedwell and Polly Davey of the Bourne. A very enjoyable match to watch and one that was difficult to predict the outcome. In the first set the score see-sawed backwards and forwards with an even amount of serves held as were broken, but eventually Bedwell and Davey took the first set. The second set was completed in a similar way. There were some powerful shots from Davey and some good retrieving from all the players but Bedwell and Davey triumphed in the end 6-4, 6-4.

The only Vets match of the day was again a repeat of last year's final. Keith Morris and Judy Sauter of Brightwells, last year's champions, took on the husband and wife team of Ian and Maralyn Sharpe. There was a lot of tactical play in this match, with appropriate use of lobs and short balls, and some fine hitting in particular from Sauter. The first set was very even and only one break of serve decided the outcome. In the second set though the Morris/Sauter team stepped up the pace and after the Sharpe's took the first game, there was no stopping their opposition who romped home to a 6-4, 6-1 victory.

A good day's tennis on a lovely warm September day. Entry forms for next year will be available from April 2008 in your clubhouse, or visit our website:-

www.aldershotdistrictlta.com/tournaments. The tournament is played from June onwards with matches up to the final arranged between you and your opponent. A separate one day junior tournament will be held in July 2008.