

Dorchester Tennis & Squash Club Annual Tennis Championships 2022

The 2022 DTSC Annual Tennis Championships were held between 7th September and the 16th October. We had the highest turnout we've had in recent years. The total number of entrants was 63, with 25 women and 38 men taking part. Our main tournament sponsor was once again Pengillys and we are very grateful for their support. Finals day on Sunday 16th October was a great success, with lovely sunny, autumnal weather and light winds at the start of the day, but fairly heavy rain for the end of the final match of the day, the Women's Doubles. We were treated to a delicious lunch organised by Ros Clark and ably assisted on the day by Jill Maple and Helen Austin, with delicious cakes and scones baked by Sarah Skidmore and Jill Maple. The prizes were presented by Al Clark, DTSC Tennis and GMC Chair.

In the **Men's Singles**, we had two first time finalists. Ethan Robinson and Ellery Ford. Ellery's tactics were to mix up the pace and not allow Ethan to play his normal game and it worked. He frustrated Ethan and won his first title 6-1, 6-1.



Men's Singles Champion - Ellery Ford



Men's Singles Runner-up - Ethan Robinson

In the **Women's Singles**, first time finalist Milly Sidaway was up against 21 time Champion Sarah Skidmore. Milly had a good game plan, but was a bit daunted by her opponent's record in the tournament. It was a battle of the big forehands, each trying to punish the other's backhands. Milly won the first set quite convincingly and at the start of the 2nd set it looked like Sarah's experience would enable her to get back into the match as she was leading, but in the end Milly managed to overcome her and claim her first singles title in straight sets 6-3 6-4.



2022 Women's Singles Champion Milly Sidaway with her trophy.

In the **Men's Doubles**, defending Champions Ed Keegan and Ethan Robinson were up against last year's finalist Hal Cazalet, playing with a new partner, Connor Townsend. The first set was close, with some exciting rallies from the baseline, but once again Ed and Ethan proved too strong for their opposition and retained their trophy 6-4 6-1.

Men's Doubles Champions - Ethan Robinson and Ed Keegan



Runners up - Hal Cazalet & Connor Townsend

The **Women's Doubles** final was the last match on court and the skies were looking threatening. A shame after such a sunny start, that the day finished in quite heavy rain. Defending Champion, Sally Dinham-Scott teamed up with Sarah Skidmore this year and they faced Rebecca Hambleton and Jess Kennedy. Sally and Sarah showed their doubles experience and raced away with the first set, but Rebecca and Jess grew into the match and managed to make the 2nd set closer than the first, but Sarah and Sally won 6-0 6-2, convincingly in the end.

**Women's Doubles Champions
Sally Dinham-Scott and Sarah Skidmore**



Runners-up Jess Kennedy & Rebecca Hambleton

The **Mixed Doubles** final was a repeat of last year's final, with defending champions Sarah Skidmore and Ethan Robinson again facing Millie Sidaway and Ellery Ford. This was one of the best matches of the day. Millie and Ellery looked like they were the better prepared team as they raced through the first set 6-0 with the champions looking sluggish. The title holders managed to turn things around in the second set, with Ethan much more active at the net and eked out a lead, serving for the set at 5-2, only to have Ethan's serve broken. They did manage to take the game into a deciding match tie-break by winning the next game and they always looked like the title was theirs in the match tie-break. They held on to win the title for the 3rd year in a row. Sarah has now won the Mixed Doubles 26 times with 10 different partners.



**Mixed Doubles Champions -
Ethan Robinson & Sarah Skidmore**



Runners-up - Ellery Ford & Millie Sidaway

Sarah Skidmore and Ethan Robinson both won 2 titles in the main events and were therefore jointly awarded the coveted **Rod Skidmore Cup**, named in memory of Sarah's husband. This Cup is awarded to the winner of the most events in the main draw and is presented in memory of a much missed club member and club Chair, Rod Skidmore, a Royal Naval pilot who lost his life in a helicopter crash in 2002.



Joint Winners of the Rod Skidmore Cup - Ethan Robinson and Sarah Skidmore

Consolation events were held in all events and full results are listed below.

Full Results:

Men's Singles - Ellery Ford beat Ethan Robinson 6-1 6-1

Women's Singles - Milly Sidaway beat Sarah Skidmore 6-3 6-4

Men's Doubles - Ethan Robinson & Ed Keegan beat Connor Townsend & Hal Cazalet 6-4 6-1

Women's Doubles - Sally Dinham-Scott & Sarah Skidmore beat Rebecca Hambleton & Jess Kennedy 6-0 6-2

Mixed Doubles - Sarah Skidmore & Ethan Robinson beat Millie Sidaway & Ellery Ford 0-6 6-3 10-6

Plate Competitions:

Men's Singles Plate - Joe Slowther beat Dugald Lockhart 6-3 6-2

Women's Singles Plate - Jess Kennedy beat Sophie Perry 6-1 6-0

Men's Doubles Plate - Pete Notley & Tim Toogood beat Daniel Smith & Henry Theobald 6-1 0-6 10-8

Women's Doubles Plate - Julie Nash & Lorraine Slowther w/o Trisha Holden & Jane Jones

Mixed Doubles Plate - Lorraine & Joe Slowther beat Lynn Ramsell & Alister Millar 6-2 6-2



Tournament Trophies & Prizes

In the **Plate Men's Singles**, Joe Slowther defeated new member Dugald Lockhart. Joe had already won the plate mixed with his Mum earlier in the day and then went off to play football in the afternoon!



Joe Slowther with the Men's Singles Plate and Prize.



AI Clark, DTSC GMC & Tennis Chair presenting Dugald Lockhart with his runner-up prize

In the **Women's Singles Plate** final, Jess Kennedy defeated Sophie Perry 6-1 6-0. The games were a lot closer than the score suggests, but overall Jess was much more consistent than Sophie and her high topspin shots to the baseline caused Sophie lots of trouble.

Women's Singles Plate Winner - Jess Kennedy



Runner-up Sophie Perry

In the **Men's Doubles Plate**, the experienced pair of Tim Toogood and Pete Notley came through a very close, see-saw match to beat juniors Daniel Smith and Henry Theobald. After 2 one sided sets, a very close match tie-break decided the match.

**Men's Doubles Plate Winners -
Pete Notley (left) & Tim Toogood (right)**



**Men's Plate Runners-up from left -
Henry Theobald & Daniel Smith.**

Unfortunately, the **Women's Doubles Plate** final couldn't be played on the day and Julie Nash and Lorraine Slowther were therefore awarded a walk over victory.



Women's Doubles Plate Winners - Lorraine Slowther (left) and Julie Nash (right).

In the **Mixed Doubles Plate** final, mother and son team of Lorraine and Joe Slowther proved too strong for Lynn Ramsell and Alister Millar, winning in straight sets.

Mixed Doubles Winners - Joe & Lorraine Slowther



**Mixed Doubles Plate Runners-up
Lynn Ramsell & Alister Millar.**