

Dorchester Tennis & Squash Club Spring Tennis Tournament 2024 **Kindly Sponsored by the Dorset LTA**

For the 3rd year running, we held a Spring Tennis Tournament at DTSC. As last year, the tournament format comprised unseeded Men's, Women's and Mixed Doubles, with drawn for partners. The Spring Tournament was held between the 14th January and the 24th March. The total number of entrants was 30, a slight decrease from last year, mainly due to a spate of injuries at the club. This year we had 10 women, 20 men and invited juniors taking part. Finals day on Sunday 24th March was a great success, with dry weather and even some sunshine, a relief after a long, cold, wet and windy start to the tournament. The prizes were presented by Al Clark, DTSC GMC & Tennis Chair. The clubhouse was packed with spectators and sandwiches and cakes were provided by the amazing team of Ros Clark, Jill Maple and Sarah Baker. With delicious scones and cakes baked by Jill, Sarah, Sue Warren, Sue Ramsbottom and Ann Williams.

In the **Men's Doubles**, despite losing the opening set quickly, Matt Chandler and Mike Williams regrouped, cut down on their errors and turned the match round in the 2nd set. The deciding championship tie break was tight, but Matt & Mike always looked like they were in control and they defeated Dugald Lockhart and Louis Young 2-6, 6-1, 10-8.

Men's Doubles Finalists (from left to right)



Champions - Mike Williams & Matt Chandler and Runners up - Louis Young & Dugald Lockhart.

In the **Women's Doubles**, Ros Clark and Lynn Ramsell, last year's defeated finalists were drawn together again. This time they were up against Julie Nash and Lorraine Slowther. The combination of Lorraine's powerful groundstrokes and Julie's drop shots and slices meant that once again Ros and Lynn were the runners up. They couldn't get into any rhythm at all in the match and Julie and Lorraine won convincingly 6-0, 6-0.



Women's Doubles Finalists (from left to right)

Champions - Julie Nash & Lorraine Slowther and Runners-up Lynn Ramsell & Ros Clark

In the **Mixed Doubles**, Ros Clark and Lorraine Slowther were again on opposite sides of the net. Ros came out the winner this time, partnered with Ellery Ford as they defeated Lorraine and Stephen Hockaday 6-1 6-1. Ros and Ellery combined well with his powerful serve and speed around the court and her net play.



**Mixed Doubles Finalists (from left to right)
Champions Ros Clark & Ellery Ford and Runners-up Lorraine Slowther & Stephen Hockaday**

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

Full Results:

Men's Doubles - Matt Chandler & Mike Williams beat Dugald Lockhart & Lois Young 2-6, 6-1, 10-8

Women's Doubles - Julie Nash & Lorraine Slowther beat Ros Clark & Lynn Ramsell 6-0 6-0

Mixed Doubles - Ros Clark & Ellery Ford beat Lorraine Slowther & Stephen Hockaday 6-1 6-1

Plate Competitions:

Men's Doubles Plate - Phil Horne & Chris Porter walkover

Women's Doubles Plate - Claire Thomasson & Sue Warren beat Jane Jones & Ann Williams 6-0 6-0

Mixed Doubles Plate - Ann Williams & Joe Slowther beat Sue Ramsbottom & Tim Guppy 3-6 6-3 10-3

Unfortunately due to a clash with a Junior Tournament, the **Men's Doubles Plate** final couldn't be played and Chris Porter and Phil Horne had a walkover.



Men's Doubles Plate Winners - Chris Porter & Phil Horne

In the Women's Doubles Plate Final, Claire Thomasson and Sue Warren proved too strong and consistent for Jane Jones and Ann Williams and won 6-0 6-0.



The Women's Doubles Plate Finalists (from left to right)

Winners - Sue Warren & Claire Thomasson and Runners-Up - Jane Jones and Ann Williams

In the **Mixed Doubles Plate**, the Final was very close. Sue Ramsbottom and Tim Guppy won the first set quite convincingly 6-3, but then the momentum swung the other way and Ann Williams and Joe Slowther took the 2nd set 6-3. Ann & Joe then dictated the final set championship tie break to win 10-3.



Mixed Doubles Plate Finalists (From Left To Right)

Winners - Ann Williams & Joe Slowther and Runners-Up - Tim Guppy & Sue Ramsbottom