

Dorchester Tennis & Squash Club Annual Tennis Championships 2020

The DTSC Annual Tennis Championships for 2020 were actually finished off in June 2021 due to Covid-19 Lockdowns 2 & 3 which prevented us all from getting out on court at various times of the year in 2020 and 2021. We resumed the tournament again at the end of March 2021 when the lockdown reopening allowed and split the finals over two days on Saturday 22nd May and Sunday 27th June due to competitors availability.

We had a great turnout for the competition despite all the challenges 2020/21 presented, various injuries and the British weather. The total number of entrants was 54, with 24 women and 30 men taking part.

In the Men's Singles, Kevin Willemse, defended his title and beat Ed Keegan 6-1, 6-1. The match was a lot closer than the score suggests, but Kevin was too steady and was in control of the match throughout.

Men's Singles Champion - Kevin Willemse



Men's Singles Runner-up - Ed Keegan



The Ladies' Singles was won by Sarah Skidmore for the 20th time overall, as she beat first time finalist, Binny Blackburn. Binny's tactics were spot on, moving Sarah around the court and bringing her up to the net with some delicate drop shots, but Sarah was too strong in the end and won 6-3, 6-3.



Ladies' Singles - Runner-up Binny Blackburn (left) and Champion Sarah Skidmore (right)

Kevin and Ed faced each other again in the Men's Doubles, Kevin partnered Ellery Ford and they beat Ed and his partner Ethan Robinson 6-2, 6-1. Kevin has now won the singles title 3 times and the doubles 6 times. Ellery was the defending champion in the doubles (with a different partner) and has now won the title 3 years in a row.



Men's Doubles Champions - Ellery Ford (left) and Kevin Willemse (right)

Sarah partnered Immi Reid in the doubles, but previous champions Sally Dinham-Scott and Yvonne Henderson were too strong and consistent for them and Sally & Yvonne won 6-2, 6-2. Sally has now won the doubles title 4 times and Yvonne 3 times.



Ladies' Doubles Champions - Yvonne Henderson (left) and Sally Dinham-Scott (right)

In the Mixed Doubles, Sarah Skidmore defended her title with new partner Ethan Robinson and they beat Katharine Butler and Hal Cazalet 6-2, 6-1. Sarah has now won the Mixed Doubles 24 times with 10 different partners. This was Ethan's first senior club title, but there will undoubtedly be more to come in the future.



Mixed Doubles Champions - Sarah Skidmore & Ethan Robinson

Sarah Skidmore and Kevin Willemse 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 - Sarah Skidmore & Kevin Willemse

Consolation events were held in all events apart from the Ladies' Singles (due to low entry numbers) and full results are listed below.

Full Results:

Men's Singles - Kevin Willemse beat Ed Keegan 6-1, 6-1.

Ladies' Singles - Sarah Skidmore beat Binny Blackburn 6-3, 6-3.

Men's Doubles - Kevin Willemse & Ellery Ford beat Ethan Robinson & Ed Keegan 6-2, 6-1.

Ladies' Doubles - Sally Dinham-Scott & Yvonne Henderson beat Sarah Skidmore & Immi Reid 6-2, 6-2.

Mixed Doubles - Sarah Skidmore & Ethan Robinson beat Katharine Butler & Hal Cazalet 6-2, 6-1.

Plate Competitions:

Men's Singles Plate - Ellery Ford beat Jonathan Pritchard 6-0, 6-0.

Ladies' Singles Plate - Not held.

Men's Doubles Plate - Trevor Blackburn & Duncan Heath beat Harald Lankisch & Jan Bergman 6-0, 6-0.

Ladies' Doubles Plate - Julie Nash & Linda Thomas beat Ann Williams & Sue Ramsbottom 6-2, 7-6.

Mixed Doubles Plate - Isabelle Mace & Chris Porter beat Sue Warren & Al Clark 6-3, 6-4.



Men's Doubles Runners-up - Ed Keegan (left) & Ethan Robinson (right)



Ladies' Doubles Runners-up - Sarah Skidmore (left) & Immi Reid (right)



Mixed Doubles Runners-up - Katharine Butler & Hal Cazalet



Tournament Trophies & Prizes



Plate - Men's Singles Finalists - Jonathan Pritchard (Runner-up - left) & Ellery Ford (Winner - right)



Men's Plate Doubles Winners - Trevor Blackburn (L) & Duncan Heath (Front), Runners-Up Harald Lankisch (Back) & Jan Bergman (Right).



Ladies' Plate Doubles Winners - Linda Thomas (Back Left) & Julie Nash (Back Right), Runners-Up Sue Ramsbottom (Front Left) & Ann Williams (Front Right)



Plate Mixed Winners - Chris Porter & Isabelle Mace (Right) and Runners-Up (Al Clark & Sue Warren (Left).