



**SUTTON
TENNIS
&
SQUASH
CLUB**

SUTTON TENNIS AND SQUASH CLUB

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STSC Squash Club 2009 Tournament

The 2009 STSC Squash Club Tournament was held on Sunday 1st November. Players were divided into 4 groups of 3 players. In the 1st round the 3 players within each group played each other. The winners progressed to “Gold” semi finals and final the players in 2nd place progressed to the “Silver” semi finals and final and the players in 3rd place progressed to the “Bronze” semi finals and final.



Congratulations to **Peter Morton** (right of picture) who successfully retained his status as Club Champion after a hard-fought Gold final (3-2) against Luke Taylor (left). Newcomer **Andy Challen** was successful in the Silver final (3-1) against Luke Edgecumbe and **John Darcy** dispatched Sarah Taylor 3-0 in the Bronze final. Thanks to all who helped organise the tournament, those who played and the markers. We are looking forward to running the tournament again in 2010.

Bronze Final Match Report

John Darcy vs. Sarah Taylor (3-0: 15-9, 15-7, 15-7)

Although Sarah thought she might be on for an upset in the Bronze final, she was no match for John Darcy (right, with Club Chairman Chris Willis) who, with some good lengths and precise drop shots, ensured he won in straight games. It was a particular achievement for John after his epic and hard fought battle in the preceding semi final against Derek Hume.





Silver Final Match Report

Andy Challen vs. Luke Edgecumbe
(3-1: 6-15, 15-7, 15-11, 15-6)

The match started at a frenetic speed with pace, placement and depth from both players. Good length from Andy (pictured) forced Luke to work hard at the back of the court but Andy's mistakes gave Luke the early advantage. The energy continued into the second game with a particularly long rally which ended with Luke on his knees at the front of the court missing an easy drop shot.

Some bullets from Andy in the third were pitted against Luke's good touch in the third, making the game even and tight. The players' reactions were tested in the fourth and Luke showed great reach at the front of the court. But his mistakes late on in the game allowed Andy to take advantage, and eventually, the match.

Gold Final Match Report

Peter Morton vs. Luke Taylor (3-2: 12-15, 17-14, 4-16, 15-11, 15-11)

Luke started well, winning some early points in the first game, but good lobs and length from Peter coupled with mistakes from Luke kept the game tight. A long rally at 8-7 down brought Luke level at 8-8. Inconsistent play from both players prevented either from getting into a rhythm and Luke snatched the last few points to win the first game.

A close second game started with Peter pushing the pace and testing Luke's reach. Luke struggled to keep out of the way and out of the tin. Long rallies and deep shots tested both players, preventing either from taking points as quickly as they would like to. A great rally gave game point to Peter but another long battle allowed Luke to level at 14-14 and Peter chose set 3 (first to 17). Peter forced another error from Luke, this time sending the ball too high rather than too low, and the game went to Peter.

Serve changed hands frequently at the start of the third game. Luke placed the ball well in the front corners and sent Peter the wrong way a couple of times to lead 10-3. Peter could not recover the deficit and Luke took the third game 15-4.

Despite tired legs and the previous game, Peter showed his mental and physical strength, to keep on top of the ball and force the pace to lead 8-4 in the fourth. Luke answered with a better lob than at the end of the second game, but Peter upped the aggression and hit hard to gain game point. Luke didn't go down without a fight, but Peter would not give up and took the game on the third attempt.

So, to the decider. Heart in your mouth stuff from both players made the game tight at 3-3, 5-5 and 7-7 with serve changing hands regularly. Both played incredible shots, pace and reach but their tiredness showed in their mistakes. It needed a good rally to break the deadlock and Peter proved the victor to stretch Luke and take the final game 15-11.



Runner-Up Luke Taylor (left) and Winner Peter Morton (right) are presented with their trophies by Club Chairman Chris Willis.