

Ryan Collins collects his sixth Britannia Suffolk Top 12 title and two new faces make the semi final from the Lowestoft League

Arguably the strongest line up since the very first event in this tournament 16 years ago, 12 of the best players who participated in Suffolk table Tennis leagues last season took part in two groups of six players, followed by further matches to determine final places.

The strength of players embraced the thought that potentially players could lose more than one group game and still qualify for the semi finals, as all players were capable of beating other players in their group.

In group one Ryan Collins the number one seed and huge favourite for the title didn't drop a set to qualify for the semi finals, and number four seed Paul Broxton after just losing his first match to Lowestoft's Kian Burgess after holding match point seemed out of sorts. James Stokes Davies who only confirmed playing during the week for his first time in this event did himself proud with two wins over Broxton and Moore, which left Andrew Doshier and Burgess to play for the second semi final place, and after four tough sets it was Burgess that went through.

In group two number two seed Andrew Warner dropped sets in all but one of his matches, and Lewy Carby in their match led 2-1 before Warner turned it around, five of the group matches went the distance three involving Carby who lost one such match to Daniel Shelly, however his match with Richard Hutchinson proved telling and from 0-2 down Carby won 3-2, this meant Hutchinson had to beat Warner in his last match to go through, but a spirited try was thwarted and Carby who's match with Hutchinson was the difference, went through as they both lost two group games, Mathew Carrant and Curtis Beales were the other group players.

Both semi finals were good to watch and in the first one Ryan Collins found Lewy Carby in no mood to surrender, Collins took the first leg but Carby played some good attacking shots to take the second set, however Collins still had the answers to take the next two games to win 3-1, the second semi final really tested Andrew Warner and showed Kian Burgess as an emerging talent, Burgess caused Warner many problems and took the first set, after equating Warner was again on the defensive and went 2-1 down but upped his game in the fourth set and scrapped home 12-10.

In the fifth set Warner showed his experience and as the game grew had the upper hand to eventually take it, while Burgess on this showing is a player for the future.

The final between the top two seeds didn't disappoint as Warner gamely returned Collins powerful loop drives to entertain the crowd, but when ever Collins needed to he had another gear and showed his class but Warner played his part in some great rallies, ultimately Collins took the match 3-0 to win his sixth title 11 years after his first one

Scores from The Britannia Table Tennis Club

Semi final

Ryan Collins beat Lewy Carby 5 -8 7 6

Andrew Warner beat Kian Burgess -6 8 -7 10 6

Final Ryan Collins beat Andrew Warner 10 7 9

3rd / 4th place Kian Burgess beat Lewy Carby 6 7 4

5th / 6th place Richard Hutchinson beat Andrew Doshier -6 9 8 7

7th / 8th place James Davies Stokes beat Mathew Carrant 11 -5 6 3

9th / 10th place Daniel Shelley beat Paul Broxton 7 7 9

11th / 12th place Ryan Moore beat Curtis Beales 6 9 4