

COUNTY RUGBY FIVES. 1

The County Rugby Fives Championship was continued during the latter part of November and December. In the previous two matches, as reported in our last issue, Surrey defeated Middlesex and Essex walked over Sussex, who were unable to raise a representative side.

EAST MIDLANDS v. SOUTH WESTERN COUNTIES.

The East Midlands had a somewhat easy victory over the South Western Counties on November 23rd in the Allyn's School courts. The margin of victory however was greatly magnified by the injury G. R. East sustained to his ankle. In the Singles J. Armitage (East Midlands) gained a somewhat unexpected win over G. F. Jarrett, although the match was a good one, while H. J. H. Lamb and J. A. C. Robertson (East Midlands) defeated their opponents by the same margin of points.

In the doubles Robertson and G. H. G. Chase (East Midlands) were easily successful, but Jarrett and N. J. T. Pickles (South Western) played very well together to defeat Armitage and Lamb in the first game before that match was abandoned. It was determined that since the match had been lost there was no sense in losing a train back to Oxford as well.

- J. Armitage (East Midland) beat G. F. Jarrett, 15—9.
- H. J. H. Lamb (East Midland) beat N. J. T. Pickles, 15—9.
- J. A. C. Robertson (East Midland) beat N. Cohen, 15—9.
- G. H. G. Chase (East Midland) beat G. R. East, 15—3.
- Armitage and Lamb (East Midland) drew with Jarrett and Pickles, 12—15, 1—0 (unfinished).
- Robertson and Chase (East Midland) beat Cohen and East, 15—5, 15—2.
- East Midlands, 118 points; South Western Counties, 57 points.

KENT v. BEDFORDSHIRE.

Kent (the holders) with an excellent team proved too good for Bedfordshire, who were, however, not at full strength. J. McGregor Cheers did well to obtain thirteen points from J. G. W. Davies, while L. A. Emmerton displayed good form against D. G. Mackenzie. The other two players, however, were outplayed. It was much the same story in the doubles. Davies and D. A. S. Day had a good match with the Bedfordshire first pair, but C. R. Black and Mackenzie were easy victors.

- J. G. W. Davies (Kent) beat J. McGregor Cheers, 15—13.
- D. G. Mackenzie (Kent) beat L. A. Emmerton, 15—12.
- C. R. Black (Kent) beat C. P. Bennett, 15—2.
- D. A. S. Day (Kent) beat F. D. Lotan, 15—2.
- Davies and Day (Kent) beat McGregor Cheers and Emmerton, 15—8, 13—15, 15—6.
- Mackenzie and Black (Kent) beat Lotan and Bennett, 15—11, 15—3, 15—2.

SEMI-FINAL ROUND.

Surrey beat Essex in the first of the two semi-finals by 146 points to 113. K. W. Millage (Essex) making his last appearance in a representative match scored ten points off the champion, P. A. Malt. The two Surrey players, W. J. Rees and D. E. Smith, had easy victories but the closest single was between B. R. Griffiths (Surrey) and H. E. Glassborow. Glassborow led easily at the start but Griffiths lasted well and finally won the match at 16—14.

By far the best performance of the evening was the

narrow victory of Millage and J. T. Hetherington (Essex) in the doubles over the Surrey first pair, Malt and Rees. Millage played as well as he usually plays in a good doubles match but Hetherington surpassed himself to give a fine exhibition.

- P. A. Malt (Surrey) beat K. W. Millage, 15—10.
- W. J. Rees (Surrey) beat J. T. Hetherington, 15—9.
- D. E. Smith (Surrey) beat E. C. Hanson, 15—5.
- B. R. Griffiths (Surrey) beat H. E. Glassborow, 16—14.
- Malt and Rees (Surrey) lost to Millage and Hetherington, 14—16, 12—15, 14—16.
- Smith and Griffiths (Surrey) beat Hanson and Glassborow, 15—11, 15—11, 15—6.

Surrey: 146 points. Essex: 113 points.

KENT v. EAST MIDLANDS.

This was an interesting match, the final result being very close. East Midlands began badly, all but G. H. G. Chase being out-played in the singles, with the result that the East Midlands started the doubles twelve points down. However, in the doubles, the brilliance of J. G. W. Davies and D. A. S. Day (Kent) who had defeated J. Armitage and H. J. H. Lamb respectively in the singles, was marred by the number of mistakes which they both made. Lamb and Armitage, with more prosaic accuracy, established a long lead in all three of the doubles and although in two games they were hunted home, they managed to gain a good lead for their side of fifteen points. Meanwhile J. A. C. Robertson and Chase (East Midlands) had not been faring as well as expected against C. R. Black and C. E. Becker, and although winning the final game easily, the match was lost and won by five points.

- J. G. W. Davies (Kent) beat J. Armitage, 15—8.
- D. A. S. Day (Kent) beat H. J. H. Lamb, 15—11.
- C. R. Black (Kent) beat J. A. C. Robertson, 15—9.
- C. E. Becker (Kent) lost to G. H. G. Chase, 10—15.
- Davies and Day (Kent) lost to Armitage and Lamb, 12—15, 11—15, 7—15.
- Black and Becker (Kent) beat Robertson and Chase, 15—6, 15—7, 6—15.

Kent 121 points; East Midlands 116 points.

COUNTY RUGBY FIVES.

Surrey beat Kent, the holders, in the final match of the County Rugby Fives championship by 133 points to 118. It was a clear and certain victory although the scores of the actual games make surprising reading. P. A. Malt (Surrey) was in excellent form and easily defeated J. G. W. Davies, by 15—7, but in the next match D. G. Mackenzie (Kent) gained a splendid victory over W. J. Rees by the same margin. R. J. Knight (Surrey) beat D. A. S. Day in a very close contest so that C. R. Black's (Kent) win over B. C. Gough, gave Kent a narrow but useful lead of four points on the singles.

But if Malt and Rees expected to win their doubles easily against Davies and Day, they were very disappointed, and it was only by a sweeping victory in the third game that they gained a pleasant win on points. Meanwhile Knight and Gough, a well-trying combination, proved by a narrow margin in each game the superiors of Mackenzie and Black.

Surrey gained a well deserved success, and the strength of the County can be gauged by the fact that seven players altogether took part in the competition. They were, P. A. Malt, W. J. Rees, D. E. Smith, F. K. Truman, R. J. Knight, B. C. Gough and B. R. Griffiths.

Detailed scores:—

P. A. Malt (Surrey) beat J. G. W. Davies, 15—7.

W. J. Rees (Surrey) lost to D. G. Mackenzie, 7—15.

R. J. Knight (Surrey) beat D. A. S. Day, 15—13.

B. C. Gough (Surrey) lost to C. R. Black, 9—15.

Malt and Rees (Surrey) beat Davies and Day, 13—15, 14—16
15—2.

Knight and Gough (Surrey) beat Mackenzie and Black, 15—12
15—11, 15—12.

Surrey 133 points; Kent 118 points.