

RUGBY FIVES FOR WOMEN.

The item of news, to be found elsewhere among the pages of this paper, that Dr. Cyriax, the Chairman of the Rugby Fives Association, has offered a Challenge Cup for competition among doubles pairs for women, must be regarded with some interest. It is not generally realised that women play Fives with considerable enthusiasm, not only in London and at Cambridge but at a good many schools elsewhere in the country. Such, however, is the case and we are informed that the number of entries for this Championship is likely to be large and that pairs will compete from all over the country including Scotland.

For the second year in succession a team of Jesters played the Ladies of University College at Rugby Fives. The Jesters team was a strong one, and although it would be idle to pretend that they were at any time in serious danger of ultimate defeat, the points which they lost were well earned by the opposition, and every game was thoroughly enjoyable. In this match a good system of handicapping was employed, the ladies scoring a point in the American way whether they were 'up' or 'down,' while the men won their points only when they were 'up.'

Miss D. Arendt, the captain, is a good player with either hand and both she and her partner, Miss M. Mathers, who has a very strong left hand, played very well when the ball was hit hard and low towards them but not so well if the speed of the shot was slow. Against J. Armitage and Dr. Arthure they would have done better to set the pace instead of playing the slow game, which they did not like, and which was set for them. Miss M. Jones, and Miss A. Dyer, who have both played Fives at school, did set the pace and being small and fast about the court they played very well. Armitage and Arthure had a splendid match against this pair, as having won the first game to 11, and lost the next to eight, they led 13—12, in the final game and had to win the next two points in order to draw the match, without being put out of hand for with the American scoring this would have lost a point. Armitage and Arthure had a remarkable evening playing six games in all and being one point up on the total result. The second pair, K. R. R. Readhead and W. E. C. Offer, however, lacking lamentably in finesse, scored more substantial victories.

The scores of the match were:—

- J. Armitage and Dr. Arthure (Jesters) beat Miss D. Arendt and Miss M. Mathers, 15—10, 16—14, 9—15; drew with Miss M. E. Jones and Miss A. Dyer, 15—11, 8—15, 15—12.
- K. R. R. Readhead and W. E. C. Offer (Jesters) beat Miss Arendt and Miss Mathers, 15—6, 15—9, 15—11; beat Miss Jones and Miss Dyer, 16—15, 15—11, 15—9.