

Fives Newsletter Mid-2011

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The Fives Federation



It's probably the question we are asked more than any other: 'What is the Fives Federation?' Yet, in many ways, it's easier to say what we do than what we are.

This newsletter is perhaps the most obvious example of the way the various codes of Fives and handball work together, but much more goes on behind the scenes. As the story opposite shows, work has started on a programme which will ensure the growth of our games; meanwhile, with the RFA's help, the EFA is looking into assuming charitable status.

However, now seems to be the time to ask ourselves some more fundamental questions.

Thus far, the Federation has been a fairly loose arrangement – no less effective for that, but loose nonetheless. In the future, though, we will investigate making it more formal. Just how far we go remains to be seen – and the members of our associations will of course be consulted – but our discussions will be wide-ranging and exclude nothing.

What is certain is that these are exciting times for Fives in all its forms. The game is being driven forward by energetic, proactive people who won't be content for Fives to merely stay at its present level. They want to see it grow – and so it shall.

Peter Worth, Chairman EFA
Frank Akerman, President RFA

Fives Coaching – a formula for success

Mark Yates explains the Federation's plans

The success of Fives in any location has always been based on a simple formula. Where any one of the three variables has been lacking, the sport has been in decline, but when all three have been in place, Fives has thrived.

That formula is:

Players plus Courts plus Coaches equals Fives

The Fives Federation has recognised the need to influence each of these elements for Fives to reach a wider audience. The development of nationally accredited coaching qualifications is a means of ensuring that the right people with the right skills are available to assist players on their courts.

With 1st4Sport (part of Sports Coach UK), we are well on the way to having a Level 2 coaching programme and qualification in place for the start of 2012. This will be in line with the UK Coaching Certificate, which means it will be on the same standing as a qualification in any other sport.

It covers two main areas, generic sports coaching and the technical aspects of coaching Fives. This caters both for Fives players becoming coaches, and sports coaches becoming Fives players. The aim is to ensure that the sport has a ready pool of coaching talent that can be developed and deployed to identify and nurture playing talent.

The Level 2 qualification will initially be aimed at those already coaching Fives or those who intend to do so in the near future. These might include full- or part-time



Qualifications will apply to every code

coaches, volunteers, Masters-in-Charge and gap year coaches. The early courses may also be of interest to those who would like to be considered as future tutors and assessors of coaches. A Level 1 qualification is also being developed, ready for Assistant Fives Coaches.

The long-term objective is to establish a culture of coaching and improvement within Fives, across all codes, with forums and workshops for those who wish to develop their skills and share best practice. Fives will be able to show to its players, sponsors, funding bodies and other parties that it is a sport for the 21st century. With a body of qualified coaches available to all players at all courts the formula for success will be much easier to achieve.



The officially accredited programme will build up a pool of coaches to nurture Fives-playing talent

Eton Fives Association Chairman's Report



As I reflect on the last season, my first as Chairman of the Eton Fives Association, I cannot help but think what a wonderful game Eton Fives is. We witnessed a superb Kinnaird Cup Final and a first-time winner in Seb Cooley, along with the continued dominance of the Olavians in the Barber Cup and one of the best schoolboy pairs winning the National Schools' Championships, which were once again so generously supported by Marsh Insurance Brokers.

Our drive to increase membership of the EFA was ably led by Gareth Hoskins and has proved to be very successful with very nearly 100 new members joining the association. This is just the beginning as we aim to double our overall membership by 2015. I urge all members of the EFA to recruit any players playing regular Fives as we are in real need of funds to further the development of our sport. We continue to seek better use of our courts throughout the country and, wherever possible, to help in the financing of new courts and the refurbishment of existing ones. This is, by its very nature, a long drawn-out process but we are keen to help wherever we can. We have recently rediscovered two courts in Caius College, Cambridge, which have lain dormant for the last 40 years, and we are hoping to have these fully restored by next year.

Our 1st4Sport coaching initiative has been completed and we will be holding our first coaching seminar in the autumn. This will be a trial run and we aim to begin regular coaching courses from the beginning of 2012. More information will be forthcoming in the autumn as we fine tune and develop the Levels 1 and 2 courses.

I would like to draw particular attention to two areas of our game which continue to thrive. Our Ladies section is becoming more and more active, with many more ladies playing and competing in a number of events. We are concerned, however, that there has been a marked drop in the number of schools entering girls' pairs in the National Schools' Championship and we are keen to see this trend reversed. The

Championships overall continue to thrive and we had well over 1000 competitors playing at Eton this year. This shows what strong support we have from all the schools and, in particular, those members of staff who devote a huge amount of time to coaching Fives and imparting their enthusiasm for the sport.

'Our aim is to reach a combined membership of 3000 in the next few years'

Finally, the Fives Federation, comprising the EFA, RFA and England Handball, is working hard to formulate a policy whereby all three codes, in tandem, can help to develop our sport and encourage more active participants. Our aim is to reach a combined membership in excess of 3000 in the next few years which, when added to the many thousands of players currently playing at school, will give us some real clout in our attempts to raise money through Government funding.

Peter Worth

RFA appoints new General Secretary

The Rugby Fives Association has appointed Ian Fuller as its new General Secretary after Andy Pringle stood down from the role.



Ian Fuller succeeds Andy Pringle

Ian will be familiar to everyone within the Rugby Fives world, as he is not only Andy's successor, he is also Andy's predecessor. He is ideally suited to resume such a role, having been on the RFA board for many years, as well as coaching at Alleyn's School and performing at the highest level on court. Only this year, he won the National Vintage Doubles Championship.

Ian will take over the day to day running of the Association,

dealing with the membership, as well as liaising with Companies House and taking over the late Ian Roberts' work with the Charities Commission.

In the meantime, Andy will remain on the RFA board in a new role of Communications Officer. He will update and maintain the Association's website, as well as its Facebook page and the Fives Federation's Twitter feed.

He will continue to help produce these newsletters, as well as taking over from Ian Roberts as editor of the Annual Review, which the RFA will produce on its own from this year.

New Eton Fives club at High Wycombe

Following the refurbishment of the two courts at the Royal Grammar School, High Wycombe, and the commitment by the School to community Fives, Richard Black saw the chance to create a new club. Thanks to his perseverance and the support of the School, particularly Steffi Trott, a new club has been born.

They hold regular Sunday afternoon sessions, mostly on the RGS courts, but with occasional expeditions to Eton.

As well as some older players, the club has welcomed a number of beginners, and there is a real family feel. With an age range of 9 to the mid-sixties, the club looks set for a productive future.

Next season they are organising a dozen friendly matches and hope to see more people coming along. Gloves, balls and tuition are provided, so if anyone fancies a game or knows of somebody locally who would like to try, please contact Richard Black (richard.black555@btinternet.com) or Paul Bowden (paulrayb@hotmail.com).



With a wide range of ages playing, the club has a real family feel

England's four players line up ahead of their international challenge matches



More English success in Ireland

Team England has enjoyed another successful trip to the Irish National 1-Wall Championships. Two players made their international debuts, while a third ensured that the team continued its record of always returning home with some silverware.

This is the fourth successive year that English players have travelled across the Irish Sea to compete, but there was a change to previous years' programme this year. On the

day before the championships started, the GAA hosted an international challenge between teams from Ireland, England, Puerto Rico and the USA.

England's top pair was made up of Ady Lee and Emmalina Thompsell, while the second pair saw Andy Pringle and National Rugby Fives Schoolgirl champion Tessa Mills represent England for the first time. Neither pair won their opening matches, but considering the quality of opposition they faced

– every one was a current or former National or World champion – they put up a fine performance.

Come the championships, England's players tested themselves by playing in tough groups – but all did well. Both Tessa and Dan Murray reached Plate finals, but the best performance came from Ladies Winchester Fives champion Kathleen Briedenhann.

Playing in her first ever handball competition, she

entered the Challenger grade, which is designed to encourage beginners. Her performance improved from game to game, as she comfortably beat her opponents in the early rounds; and, while she was tested further in the later rounds, she went on to win the title, making this the third year on the trot that an English girl has appeared in the final of this event – and the second English victory, after Jess Lumbard won the title in 2009.



Rugby School wins first titles in new era

Rugby School has wasted no time in winning its first titles since its new courts were built.

Just a few months after the two courts were unveiled in October 2010, Francesca Ruffell and Hannah Hawkesley picked up the Under 16 Singles and Doubles titles at the National School Girls' Championships in Malborough.

Francesca bt Shi Nan Zhang of Malvern to win the singles title, before pairing up with Hannah to beat Christ's Hospital and secure the doubles title as well.

The players at Rugby have come on quickly in their first year under the tutelage of Trevor White, and it's not just the girls who have proved their mettle. In

the Schools' Championships, Marcus Hunter won the Colts singles plate.

The School has also seen several successes in matches, with a win in the first match of the new era prompting some notable Old Rugbeians – with tongue in cheek – to claim a 25-year unbeaten record for the school.



Rugby girls won both singles and doubles

Rugby Fives Association President's Report



A glance at the RFA Pocket Book for 1996-97 makes for rather sobering reading. It lists courts at Lambrook School, Colstons in Bristol, Bristol Grammar School, Cheltenham, Durham School, Haileybury, Rutlish School, Henry Thornton School, Horris Hill School, Sutton Valence and Canford School, but all have now disappeared. New courts at Rugby, Oundle and a private court in Switzerland together with refurbishment of courts at Alleyns, Sedbergh, Fettes, Blundell's and Oswestry go a little way towards redressing the balance, but there is absolutely no doubt that a major priority for the RFA is to encourage a wider use of all existing courts. In my visits to various tournaments and competitions in the last four years there has been no indication that the contraction in the overall playing facilities has had any affect on the standard of Fives played throughout the country. In reality, many of the courts which have been lost were little used, but this is a challenge still facing the RFA, for there remain a number of courts in schools where the game is hardly played.

On the opening page of this Newsletter, you will have read of the need for the Fives Federation to develop a robust coaching scheme: this can then be introduced to schools where the game is either dormant or at least little played. In the last decade formalised training arrangements for coaching of all sports have become the accepted requirement for schools, and if Fives is to be treated seriously by the staff who now coordinate all sporting activities, then Fives coaches will need to be appropriately trained to a nationally recognised standard.

'Schools with courts should be encouraged to introduce other schools to the game'

The Federation has agreed to develop a joint training programme, but meanwhile it should be possible to continue to expand the more informal arrangements supported by the RFA, such as those at the Edinburgh Academy –

where Richie Murby and Ed Cumberlege (students at Glasgow and Edinburgh Universities) have transformed the standard of junior Fives – and at St Paul's, where Dan Tristao and Dan Murray have introduced 16 boys from Richmond Park Academy to the game. There is no reason why all schools with courts should not be encouraged to introduce another local school to Fives, and clubs around the country are well placed to support such arrangements, with Derby Moor being an excellent example of how it can happen.

Only with such levels of encouragement and innovation are we going to be able to stop and then hopefully reverse the unfortunate trend of the last 15 years. Dick Warner's recent initiative at Denstone, where 30 boys and girls turned out and thoroughly enjoyed an afternoon of Fives on courts that are underused, shows what can be achieved with well directed enthusiasm and support. I hope there will be enough Fives players reading this article who will now wish to make a similar event happen on their local courts. This is just the level of involvement which will be required by all the Fives-playing community if we are going to make any progress in promoting this great game.

Frank Akerman

EFA boosts Ladies Fives



The Ladies Fives Festival is planned to become an annual event

Ladies Eton Fives continues to go from strength to strength and is benefiting from a range of new initiatives being introduced by the dynamic EFA Ladies sub-committee led by Annabel Griffiths and her team of Kerry White, Dominique Redmond, Ashley Lumbard and Mandie Barnes. The EFA Ladies team are expanding their fixture list for next season to include as many schools as possible where girls are playing Fives, including a planned tour to Switzerland in September to take on the girls at the Lyceum Alpinum in Zuoz. This follows on from the first ever

end-of-season Ladies Fives Festival at Eton, organised by Emily Scoones and Kerry White, and which should become an annual event.

The Richard Black Cup team event is now an established part of the calendar, and the EFA Ladies once again entered a team in the EFA Trophy to take on the men and more than held their own in their pool. An EFA Ladies team in Division 3 of the League is also a definite possibility for the 2012/13 season. For further information, keep an eye on the website or the EFA Facebook group.

New appointment to the RFA board



Alex Steel replaces Melanie Whitehead

Alex Steel has recently been appointed to the board of the RFA to succeed Melanie Whitehead, who has stood down.

Alex has been a keen supporter of the ladies' game for many years, and is one half of the reigning Ladies National Winchester Fives Doubles champions. She said, 'I am extremely honoured to join the RFA Board and am looking forward to the chance to raise the profile of ladies' Fives within the organisation.'

The Association expects to appoint more board members at September's AGM, to fill the vacancies left by David Barnes, who has announced his intention to step down, and by the untimely death of Ian Roberts this year.

RFA committees tackle vital issues

Rules, championships, courts sorted

Two sub-committees have recently completed some vital work for the RFA, while a third is just getting under way.

The first, under the chairmanship of David Gardner, has revised the rules of the game, while the second (under David Barnes) has looked into the future of the National Schools' Championships. Meanwhile, Stuart Kirby is starting to revise the RFA's recommendations for the construction and renovation of courts.

Rather than undertake a wholesale rewriting of the rules, David Gardner's team went through the

current regulations to ensure that they continued to reflect the current state of play in today's game.

Fortunately, although the last revisions took place in 1995, very little work was required. Most of the revisions centred on some rewording to clarify a few important points, as well as addressing issues that had arisen in recent tournaments. The final version of the revised rules, as agreed by the whole RFA board, is now on the RFA website.

Meanwhile, David Barnes chaired several meetings at which every aspect of the Schools'

Championships was discussed: from its venue to the format, timing and duration. There was some keen discussion, and the next step is for David to present a series of recommendations to the RFA board.

Finally, Stuart has already started on his work, which was requested by the RFA after several issues came to light during and after the recent construction of new courts at Oundle and Rugby Schools. Stuart is the perfect man to lead such a process, having been hugely involved in the refurbishment of the



David Gardner led revisions to Rugby Fives rules

courts at Derby Moor.

He has already started to gauge opinions from all corners of the Fives-playing world on the best practice for court construction. The intention

is to revise and improve the RFA's existing court specifications to give greater help and guidance to anyone building new courts or refurbishing existing ones in the future.

Almost 100 attend RFA Dinner

A large number of guests enjoyed the RFA Dinner at the Queen's Club in April. It attracted a crowd of past and present Fives players, as well as guests from the EFA and England Handball.

The evening started with a minute's silence in memory of Ian Roberts, before everyone got down to the business of eating, drinking and being merry. It was a thoroughly informal evening, with no

speeches other than a few words from RFA President Frank Akerman – and rather more from Alex Smith, who regaled the crowd with the story of the demise of the original Owers Trophy, before presenting its new replacement to the Old Paulines. A presentation was also made to Peter Dunscombe, who has stood down as organiser of the West of England Championships after almost 40 years.



Queen's Club hosted a pleasantly informal event



BBC coverage (above) boosted game; training at Eastbourne (right)

1-Wall progress continues

1-Wall Handball continues to expand in the UK, especially after TV coverage and the opening of new courts at Merchant Taylors.

Former MTS pupil and England handballer Dan Grant told us that the school has really taken to the game and will partner Dan and fellow OMT Gareth Price in running an outreach project to South Oxhey schools.

Hertfordshire is also very keen on the sport, and Dan and Gareth will run introductory sessions for several schools there in September. This follows Gareth running a successful session at a school in Uxbridge in May.

Elsewhere, UCL is considering a taster session in the new academic

year, Dan Murray has made excellent inroads at Worcester University, and England Ladies Handball captain Kerry White ran a productive session for the girls at Eastbourne College.

This came after 10 English players took part in a tournament and training weekend with their Belgian and Dutch counterparts in Holland in January. Peter White and Kerry White won the men's and women's competitions respectively, while Jeremy Hindle and Jon Fagan both made promising international debuts.

Keen to build on this success, England Handball is looking to recruit new players. All Fives players are encouraged to give the game a go.

News in brief

■ The Bank of England is to undertake renovation work on its two courts in Roehampton. This will include repairs to the leaking roof, as well as giving the courts a lick of paint.

■ The 2011 Geneva Fives tournament in June was won by Zuoz old boy Alex de Senger and Curt Schmitt, current Master-in-Charge at the Lyceum Alpinum.

■ Blundells School has recently finished work on its six courts. The leaking roof has been repaired, and some of the courts repainted.

■ The 2011 Eton Fives Varsity Match included six ladies pairs for the first time. Cambridge won both the Blues matches, Oxford were winners in the Mens second team match and Cambridge took the Ladies second team fixture.

■ Chris Thomas is to take over from Peter Gray as Master in charge of Fives at Malvern College this September. Ben Andrews will take over from Chris at KCS Wimbledon.

■ Werner Ahrens, one of the cornerstones of the Zuoz Fives Club Zurich and a regular visitor to the UK, sadly died earlier this year, aged 72.

■ The RFA AGM will be held on Thursday September 8th, rather than the date published in last year's Pocket Book.

■ The Cox/Reynolds prototype court is now in Sussex at the Shawcross family home. The first game on the court in its new location was played by Nigel Cox, John Reynolds, Roman Heindorff and Conrad Shawcross.



Prototype court in new home

England Handball Chairman's Report

England Handball has been active over the winter months since the last newsletter to increase its profile, reach new audiences and promote the sport more widely.

World Games 2013

The World Games, endorsed by the International Olympic Committee, take place every four years and include more than 30 sports competing for full Olympic inclusion. We are delighted that 1-Wall Handball will form part of the 2013 programme in Columbia.

National TV Coverage

1-Wall was featured on the BBC

'1-Wall Handball will form part of The World Games'

Breakfast News as presenter Mike Bushell tried his hand at training with the England squad. It was a great advert for the game and raised the profile of the sport.

New National Centre of Excellence

The England Handball Centre of Excellence was officially opened at Merchant Taylors in February to a large audience of sports professionals, teachers and media from the Hertfordshire region. Over 100 students took part throughout the day, coached by Gareth Price and Dan Grant, who masterminded the project.

Taster Sessions

Increased interest from ladies has led to taster sessions at Eastbourne College and Brooklands College.

Handball In A Box

The first batch of HBIAB sold out in a matter of weeks and we



are now halfway through the second run. There are still some boxes available at £40 each which contain everything you need to get started. Please contact james.toop@englandhandball.co.uk to find out more.

New Structure

England Handball is now in the process of registering as an entity in its own right, with a new board and more formal processes. We held our first official AGM for members in January.

James Toop

Westway Summer Superleague



After the success of the first Westway Summer Superleague in 2010, no less than 14 teams were entered into two conferences this year, with every team playing each other in a fight for the play-off places. It quickly became

apparent that established Superleague powers the Studs, WHOREFC, Katona and the Gangsters were going to have their work cut out – Phil Lyndon's Fivercide took an early lead in Conference A, while Team F and Four4Fives got off to flying starts in Conference B, albeit behind Spencer Chapman's title-holders, the Aston House Studs.

In addition to the Superleague title and Most Valuable Player Award (for the highest number of

points scored), there are two more trophies up for grabs this year – the Golden Glove, for winning shots into the hole from open play, and the Hotstreak Award, for the highest number of games won in a row.

As it stands, just over halfway through the season, Jeremy Hindle from the Studs leads the MVP Race, closely pursued by WHOREFC 2's Harry Turnbull. Seb Cooley – outrageously (but, what else would you expect from Seb?) – leads the race for the Golden Glove with 10 shots into the hole in one evening's play, while Gareth Hoskins (Studs) and Ryan Perrie (Gangsters) both hold nine-game unbeaten Hotstreaks, but (at the time of writing) can still add to that.

The Conference phase this year has successfully fulfilled the overriding reason for the tournament – to get different people playing in the summer sun, with a social focus. So far 83 players have played over 100 different match combinations, many of them going right to the wire, with 2,530 points being scored - 137 of them being finished in the hole. As the tournament reaches the knockout stage the focus is likely to change towards performance and winning, rather than mass participation, and as with last year we anticipate an exciting and nerve-wracking climax. The final will take place at Westway on the evening of Monday August 15th - all are welcome.

DJS Guilford (1930 – 2011)

It is with great regret that we record the passing of David Guilford, a Vice President and former Honorary Secretary of the EFA. He has been one of the game's most distinguished names in the post-war period and a superb player.

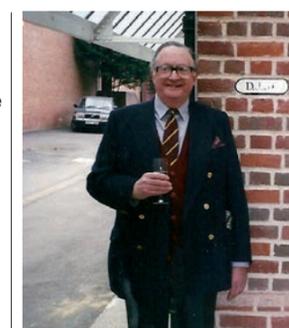
He reached the pinnacle of his playing career in winning the Kinnaid Cup in 1959 and 1960 with fellow Harrovian and lifelong friend, Martin Shortland-Jones, and once again in 1963 with the Edwardian, Tony Hughes. Indeed, Guilford and Shortland-Jones were the only pair ever to win a game against the legendary May brothers in the Kinnaid.

After leaving Harrow, David went up to Cambridge to study Classics. As well as his successes on the Fives court, he captained the College cricket and squash teams, and played cricket for the Crusaders.

In 1954, David joined the staff of Highfield Prep School in Liphook, Hampshire, and after five years, moved to Eton, where he became a Housemaster and later Admissions Officer. In recognition of his and Martin Shortland-Jones' many years service to Fives at Eton, one of the refurbished courts has been named in their honour.

A pedant – and proud of it – David was the ideal person to be Honorary Secretary of the EFA, as he was from 1961 to 1968. He also served as the Jesters' Eton Fives and South of England Representative.

To the young, David in his later years may have been a daunting figure, but although he was a stickler for correct behaviour, his warmth and kindness were thinly covered. Many of his older friends will have enjoyed his mock horror and exclamation of "What?" when confronted with what he



Guilford: 'Inspirational, loyal'

was as yet another much-loved tradition crumbling. David was an old fashioned schoolmaster in the very best sense: intelligent, inspirational, loyal, kind, generous and civilised – and rarely lost for words when asked for an opinion. The world is a poorer place for his passing.

A fuller tribute can be seen on www.fivesonline.net, and a Memorial Service will be held at Eton in October.

Record numbers in EFA Schools' Championships

Eton College hosts more than 1000 children over eight days

Once again, the 2011 Marsh Insurance National Schools' Championships shattered all records, with over 1000 boys and girls taking part in the various competitions over the course of eight days at Eton. The Under 12 tournament alone saw 96 pairs from 14 schools playing on the same day, with the courts in use continuously from 10.30am until 5pm to get to the semi-final stages of the main competition and produce winners of no less than 28 separate plate competitions.

Overall, the latter stages of the championships were dominated by Shrewsbury and Highgate. Shrewsbury pairs claimed the Boys Open, Under 16 and Under 14 Beginners titles plus the Girls Under 17 beginners and the Mixed. Highgate won the boys Under 14, Under 13 and Under 12 competitions, plus the Girls Open and Under 15s. Eton were the only school to successfully break this duopoly, winning the Boys Under 15 competition.

The Boys Open-winning pair of George Thomason and Jack Hudson-Williams from Shrewsbury managed the remarkable feat of winning the title without dropping a single game, and it is to Shrewsbury that the Championships will return in 2012.



Shrewsbury pairs finished with five titles

News in brief

■ The RFA has a stock of Association ties, which are available for £15 each from General Secretary Ian Fuller.

■ There is progress on the provision of Fives courts in Cambridge. The University has approved funding to build Phase 1 of the sports centre, which could be open for the academic year 2013/14. Three Eton Fives and three Rugby Fives Courts will be in Phase 2.

■ Simon Werkshagen has taken over running the West of England Open from Peter Dunscombe, and Charlie Brooks has taken over the RFA National Singles from Ed Hatton.

■ Mike Hughes will be taking over as Fives coach at Eton College next season, as Seb Cooley takes up a position at Shrewsbury. Meanwhile, Ben Lane is taking over at Uppingham and Jamie Bartlett is taking over at Cranleigh.



Heath champs Malik and Woods

■ The 2011 Heath Tournament at Aldenham was won by Matt Woods and Rubel Malik, beating Andrew Fraser and Neil Margerison in the final.

■ A Regional Tournament will replace the EFA County Championships next year. Four regional teams will take part with two teams representing the schools and universities.

■ The 2011 EFA Schools' Championships Open Final and Kinnaid Cup Final were the first Fives matches to be webstreamed live.

■ The EFA are delighted The Jesters will continue to fund the Universities tournament next year, with a view to going on for two more seasons.

Olavians dominate EFA league

This year's EFA League produced nail-bitingly close finishes in all three divisions.

Division One was dominated by the Old Olavians, who – for the first time ever – had their teams finish in the top two places. Seb Cooley and Peter Cohen's Old Olavians 2 managed to beat Howard Wiseman's Old Olavians 1 to the title by a single point.

Division Two, as ever, produced some fantastic matches. From the start, the race for the title was a two-horse race between North Oxford and the Old Millhillians, who remarkably only lost two pairs between them against the other 10 teams in the division all season. The top spot was decided in the head-to-head between the two teams at Mill Hill



Olavians 2 won title by a point

in March, with home advantage and that little bit of extra youth and quality carrying the day for the home side in a titanic battle.

Division Three benefited greatly from the presence of a revitalised Lancing Old Boys side and the Old Citizens, back in the league for the first time in a while. More games were completed in this division than for a while, and it is to the great credit of the Old Citizens that they finished top, with an unbeaten record.

RFA Tournament Results Round-up

National Ladies Championships

Singles: Claire Knowles; Doubles: Claire Knowles & Melanie Whitehead

National Under 25s Championships

Singles: Dan Tristao; Doubles: Dan Tristao & Dan Grant

North of England Championships

Singles: Dan Tristao; Doubles: Dan Tristao & Hamish Buchanan

Ladies' Winchester Fives Championships

Singles: Kathleen Briedenhann
Doubles: Anita Ganguly & Alex Steel

Winchester Fives National Doubles Championship

Winners: Will Ellison & Hal Mohammed

National Under 13s Championships

Singles: Kinnear (Pilgrims)
Doubles: Pilgrims 1

Colquhoun Trophy

Open: Jamie Killick (Malvern); Colts: A Frosell (Marlborough)

National Vintage Championships

Singles: Wayne Enstone; Doubles: Ian Fuller & Jeremy Schroeter

National Schools' Championships

Open Singles: Luke Thomson (Christ's Hospital); Doubles: Christ's Hospital I (Thomson/Mathias)

Colts Singles: Sam Wyatt-Haines (Blundells); Doubles: Winchester I (Ganendra/Wylde)

Under 14 Singles: M Blunden (Derby Moor); Doubles: Tonbridge I (Webb/Langham)

National Doubles Championship

Winners: Hamish Buchanan & Robin Perry

National Masters Championship

Winners: Bernard Atkinson & David Bawtree

National Veterans' Championships

Singles: Hamish Buchanan
Doubles: Hamish Buchanan & Bruce Hanton

National Club Championship

Winners: Old Paulines

Scottish Open Championships

Singles: Will Ellison; Doubles: Jay Gravatt & Simon Hodgson

National School Girls' Championships

Senior Singles: Tessa Mills (Eastbourne College); Doubles: Laura Jardine Paterson & Louisa Treadwell (Marlborough College)

U16 Singles: Francesca Ruffell (Rugby School); Doubles: Francesca Ruffell & Hannah Hawkesley (Rugby)

U14 Singles: Louise Mathias (Christ's Hospital); Doubles: Olivia Walsh & Louise Mathias (Christ's Hospital)

U13 Singles: Amy Cross (Blundell's School); Doubles: Alice Smith & Emily Combe (Blundell's School)

Derby Moor Invitation Doubles

Winners: Tim Widdop & Mike Baxter

South West Open Championships

Singles: Will Ellison; Doubles: Will Ellison & Marcus Bate

EFA Tournament Results Round-up

League Division 1: Old Olavians 2

League Division 2: Old Millhillians

League Division 3: Old Citizens

Alan Barber Cup: Old Olavians

EFA Trophy: Berkhamsted

Richard Black Cup: EFA 1

Richard Barber Cup: St.Olave's

Northern Tournament: Tom Dunbar & Seb Cooley

Kinnaird Cup: Tom Dunbar & Seb Cooley

Ladies Championships: Kerry White & Dominique Redmond

Mixed Championships: Howard Wiseman & Dominique Redmond

Under 21 Champonships (Mens): Andrew Joyce & Jeremy O'Neill

Under 21 Champonships (Ladies): Constance Mantle & Hannah Cutmore-Scott

Universities Mixed: Cambridge (Laurie Brock & Elli Hullis)

Aberconway Cup (Fathers & Sons): Mike & Chris Hughes

MJS-J Cup (Veterans): Mike Hughes & Grant Williams

Walters Cup (Over 60s): Anthony Wagg & Tim Best

Forthcoming events

Eton Fives

August

Mon 15th	Westway Summer Superleague Finals	Westway
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September

Sun 18th	Under 25 Championships	Eton
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Sun 25th	Ranking Tournament	tbc
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October

Sat/Sun 1st/2nd	Rossall Open Schools' Championships	Blackpool
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Tues 11th	Strawson Memorial	Westway
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Sun 16th	Regional Tournament	Eton
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Sat/Sun 29th/30th	Midland Tournament	Repton
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November

Sun 6th	Richard Black Cup	Eton
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Sat 12th	Universities Championships	Eton
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Sat/Sun 19th/20th	Alan Barber Cup – 1st Round deadline	
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Sat/Sun 26th/27th	London Tournament	tbc
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December

Sat/Sun 3rd/4th	Alan Barber Cup – 2nd Round	
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Sun 4th	Graham Turnbull Trophy	Eton
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Sun 11th	Alan Barber Cup – Semi-Finals	Eton
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2012

January

Sun 22th	Ladies Championships	Eton
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	Alan Barber Cup – Final	Eton
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Sun 29th	Under 21 Championships	Eton
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Rugby & Winchester Fives

September

Thurs 8th	RFA AGM	London
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Sat/Sun 10th/11th	London Open Championships	St Paul's
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October

Sat/Sun 1st/2nd	Owers Trophy	St Paul's
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Sun 15th	Yorkshire Open Doubles	Giggleswick
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Sat/Sun 29th/30th	West of England Open Championships	Clifton
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November

Sun 6th	Schools' Winchester Fives Doubles	Winchester
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	North of England Winchester Fives Championships	Sedbergh
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Sat/Sun 19th/20th	National Open Singles Championship (qualifying rounds)	Various
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Fri/Sun 25th/27th	National Student & BUCS Championships	Marlborough
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December

Sat/Sun 3rd/4th	National Open Singles Championship (final rounds)	Manchester
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Sun 4th	National Ladies Championships	St Paul's
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Sun 11th	RFA Club President's Cup	Merchant Taylors
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2012

January 2012

Sat/Sun 7th/8th	West of England Schools' Championships	Sherborne
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Sat/Sun 14th/15th	National Doubles Championship (qualifying rounds)	Various
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Sat/Sun 28th/29th	North West Open Championships	Manchester
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February

Sat/Sun 4th/5th	Under 25 Championships	Alleyn's (tbc)
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1-Wall Handball

October

Sat/Sun 8th/9th	UK Open (including Novice grade)	London
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Fri/Sun 28th/30th	Triangular tournament (between England, Holland and Belgium)	Holland (tbc)
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December

Sat 3rd	England Handball social event	London
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Full details on www.rfa.org.uk and www.fivesonline.net