

OXFORD CITY & COUNTY MIXED TENS 2023/24

Winners Chipping Norton Indoor Bowls Club

The tens is a mixed competition consisting four games, Singles, 4 wood Pairs, 3 wood Triples and Fours. Teams consist of 5 men and 5 ladies playing in any combination in the four games.

On Sunday 7th April 2024 Chipping Norton Indoor Bowls Club team, managed by Martin Acock, played the final at Oxford City & County against a home team the Oxford City & County Blues. Being a home team they were favourites to win.

The singles was played by Martin Shepherd against John Major. John won a one on the first end and the 2nd end was a tie so after two ends John was 1 – 0 up. Then Martin stepped up a gear and took the next five ends to be 8 – 1 up. John started to find it in the next six ends and pulled it back to 7 – 9 down. Martin on end 14 picked up a four. The game was favouring Martin picking up seven to be 20 – 11 on the 21st end. Martin scored the one to secure the win (21 – 11 over 22 ends) for Chipping Norton. Some excellent drawing woods by Martin.

The Pairs was played by John Cox (Lead) and Paul Robbins (skip) against Sue Mayo (Lead) and David Nash (skip). Sue & Dave won a single shot on the first end. John & Paul then found it and won the next six ends to be leading 12 – 1. Sue & Dave won a single shot on the next end however John & Paul came back at them to win the next four ends and were 19 – 2 up at 12 ends. Sue & Dave won single shots on the next three ends however John & Paul went onto win 23 – 8 despite that rink five is not Johns favourite rink.

The rinks, CN was an all ladies rink consisting of Linda Boyd (lead), Carole Cole (two), Di Zenyck (three) and Pauline Tuckey (skip) against a mixed OCC Blues rinks featuring Jane Buckland (lead), Sandy Nash (two), Tim Cox (three) and Nigel Satchel (skip). The previous week the same CN rink was well and truly beaten however in the final they were focused and determined to win. Like all the above games Chipping Norton lost the first end by one shot however they won the next four ends and was leading 7 – 1. Nigel and his team picked up a one on the next end followed by a one for CN. End 8 was the big end for CN picking up a seven to be 15 – 2 up. The CN rink team play was exceptional with CN winning the next seven ends to win overall by 31 – 6.

The CN triple featured Jean Dix (lead), Percy Hickman (two) and Dave Leighfield (skip) against a very good OCC Blues triple consisting of Ann Bristow (lead), Rosemary Phelps (two) and Russell Edwards (skip). This was a much closer game with the score all square at 7 – 7 at six ends. CN picked 4 & 3 on the next two ends and were leading 14 – 8 at 9 ends. OCC Blues came back to pick up a four a couple of twos and a one to be 17 -16 up at 14 ends. The points were shared on the next three ends with CN leading 19 -18 going into the last end. After the ones and twos had bowled OCC Blues were holding a couple of shots however Dave Leighfield drew his wood in to win the game 20 – 18. Jean, Percy and Dave produced some great bowling to secure the win.

Overall CN produced a fantastic performance to win all four games winning overall 95 to 43 and taking all five points. The team not only won the trophy but also the prize of £250 for the club. Congratulations go to all the players in the final, a great team spirit was displayed along with support from CN club who turned up to cheer them on.

During the season the CN Tens team has been made up of few other players that did not play in the final and they are also to be congratulated for taking part and producing the CN team spirit. Congratulations to Martin Acock in doing a good job managing the team and producing the win.

Report by Dave Lattimore.