

### Hoddesdon TC Pickleball Vs Cambridge Pickleball Club

HTC hosted Cambridge PC for the second time on 25 July. Following last year's match, which was won convincingly by HTC, some HTC members have also joined Cambridge and vice versa. In particular Karyn Duggan, Captain of the Cambs team became a member of HTC and has been a regular visitor. Therefore, given Karyn's knowledge of both clubs, she was given an unusual role in selecting both teams, with the aim of producing a good close match, and this objective was very well met.

It was first blood to Cambridge who took a 2 – 0 lead. However, a 12 – 10 victory in the 8<sup>th</sup> game brought HTC level at the quarter way point. HTC had an early lead in the last game of the 1<sup>st</sup> half but eventually lost 8 – 11 to give Cambs a 9 -7 half time lead. HTC had the better of the early 2<sup>nd</sup> half exchanges and drew level at 11 all. However, the Cambridge players held their nerve and pulled away again to win 18 – 14.

The contest was very exciting with many close games that were great to watch, and it certainly lived up to its billing as a Friendly Match!



**The Players: Left to Right**

*HTC: Denese Chettleburgh, Barbara Bundy, Sonja Johnson, Arlen Foscett, Grant Nicholls, Mike Bundy, Neil Chettleburgh, Murray Allan.(replaced by Ken Bound after round 5)*

*Cambridge: Helen Hills, Jennifer Willing, Sandra Ashcroft, Lydia Appleton, Silvano Squizzato, Denis Willing, Alan James, Ethan Hills*



The intention had been to play the match on HTC's outdoor courts. However, the weather forecast for Sunday looked bleak, so the decision was taken to move the match indoors at Wodson Park. However, the rain stayed away and players were able to enjoy a lovely match tea outside at HTC.



After everyone had been fed and watered, David Stoten announced the result and said a few words reflecting on the match. He drew attention to Sandra Ashcroft's eight wins in eight games and it was agreed that this deserves a "Golden Pickleball" award. Lastly, Denese Chettleburgh presented The Cambridge / HTC Challenge Trophy to Karyn Duggan, Cambridge's non-playing captain. Hopefully it will not be too long before HTC gets a chance to win it back!

