



Hertfordshire Bowls

Walker Cup 2022

Johns Trophy vs Cambridgeshire - at Royston BC on Sunday 10th July at 10.15hrs

This was a game that we were controlling brilliantly for 11 ends, winning a shade comfortably by 17 shots over the two rinks until the tenacious and never give up Cambridgeshire girls rallied and it became squeaky bum time with a few ends to go. But I am ahead of myself.

Arrived again at 9am to a cloudless sky and the promise of 31 degrees by lunchtime. Royston are such excellent hosts with the green being cut, the bacon on and the bevy of beauties ready with tea/coffee. There were only two scores of four or more per end with both Counties having one each.

The first three ends of both rinks were cagey with Cambs edging it 5-3. The fourth end saw Rhianna's rink go into overdrive winning the next five ends to show 14-2 up after 8 ends. Devon's rink dropped a 2 on the fourth but they also won five on the trot to be 11-5 up at 9 ends. A bit of interchange for the next few ends saw Herts 17 shots up after both rinks has bowled 11 ends (Rhianna 15-4 & Devon 12-6). Just goes to show that no game is won until hands are shaken with Cambs girls showing grit to take 4 ends on the trot on Rhianna's rink and a six on the 12th on Devon's rink meaning that at 15 ends, the difference was down to 11 (Rhianna 16-8 Devon 16-13). With Rhianna's rink losing the next 4 ends but Devon's rink winning 3 out of 4, at the 19th end Herts held a lead of only 6. This is when the Herts girls showed Heart and what they are made of by practically putting the game to bed, both rinks getting a two. Ten up, two to play both rinks managed the game and both ensured that only a two was dropped.

I am so proud of them, Devon's rink won 13 of the 21 ends and Rhianna's rink only 9 ends but still won. Great support as usual which was especially appreciated as the Balcombe was also playing at the same time (the boys won as well).

Huntingdonshire are our next opponents and it will be held at Sandy Conservative Club in the morning of Sunday 17 July (Don't think Boris will be there). Win that and it's Essex, Norfolk or Leicestershire in the final to see who goes to Leamington.

Thank you to our hosts, Royston Bowling Club, Bill our umpire, the girls who fed and watered us, Stan behind the bar, the green cutter (Stuart?) and anyone else I have forgotten to mention.

Alan Spicer
Johns/Walker Team Manager

Rhianna Russell
Mavis Hendry
Jess Weir
Alison Hall
WON 18-16

Devon Cooper
Jennie Redford
Hayley Robinson
Rachel Tremlett
WON 21-17

Additional Walker Squad : Joanne Hollister, Betty Stewart