

Report on Balcomb Trophy match v Suffolk.

Today, Hertfordshire Bowls Men played Bowls Suffolk at The Rookery B.C. Stowmarket in the first round of the Bowls England Balcomb Trophy. This is a two rink competition.

Hertfordshire's rinks were:

Neil Sharp (Welwyn Garden City), David Martin (Garston), Alan Hutchison (Bishops Stortford), Mark Plume (Buntingford).

Simon Lee (Royston), Glenn Williams (Royston), Jerry Rumball (Garston), Tom Muir (Harpenden)

Reserves: James Avery (Welwyn Garden City), Nick Muir (Harpenden)

Hertfordshire started strongly and at 5 ends were winning 13 shots to 4. At 10 ends they increased their lead to 14 shots. At 15 ends the lead had reduced to 12 shots as Suffolk started a comeback and at 18 ends had reduced Hertfordshire's lead to 6 shots but Hertfordshire dug in and held their winning position until the end when they won by 12 shots after picking up 6 shots on the last end when Suffolk were looking for 9 shots over the two rinks.

This was the second excellent win by the men this weekend following their success in the Middleton Cup on Saturday.

As would be expected at this level of the game excellent bowls were played by all players on both sides.

Well done Hertfordshire who now progress to the Regional Finals on Sunday 25 June where they will play the winners of Northamptonshire and Leicestershire. Venue yet to be advised.

Peter Vidoy

Hon. Executive Secretary