

Balcomb Trophy vs. Essex

Score Hertfordshire 24 Essex 38

The Hertfordshire men travelled to Romford BC, Essex for the first round of the Balcomb Trophy, 2 x fours.

Essex are the current holders of the National Title so it was going to be a tough game, with thunderstorms forecast we got off to an early start which seemed to benefit us as we got out of the traps well, and just shy of halfway we found ourselves 7 up.

However as in the previous Middleton Cup matches there was a momentum change with two 4s dropped which bought them back into the game.

The game continued to be tight before a decisive moment on Martin's Rink. Being 2 down and aiming to trail the jack back for a possible 4 the execution was half inch out and instead of the jack coming back it got lodged on a bowl, this was not to much of problem as we where still only 2 down, however it had now given Essex a shot to trail it themselves and the Essex Skip played what Paul Merson from Gillette Soccer Saturday calls a 'worldie', inch perfect with just the right amount of weight to move the jack for a 5. In the context of the game this proved the pivotal point as from that point we were chasing the game.

Our thanks go to our supporters for travelling, its always great to see Hertfordshire people when we are away.

**Roger Evans
Manager**