

**BRITISH INTER COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS
PREMIER DIVISION**

ESSEX vs LANCASHIRE

At Chelmsford

The **Ladies 'B'** got off to the worse possible start, losing the opening 3-sets with losses from Tracey Newman 3-0; Kerry Rudd (Braintree) 3-1 on her debut and Steph Hewson (Springfield) 3-2 on her return to the team. Lynn Kelly (14.99) got a-point on the board, before Dawn Kennedy lost 3-1; Leanne Peetoom (18.83) lay claim to the match award with a 3-2 victory, therefore, the ladies losing 4-2.

The **Men's 'B'** fought well in a tough battle that would end in a 6-6 draw. Simon Monk was unlucky to lose the opening set 4-3; Wayne Gleed (27.08) and Allan Mathieson (29.47) both won 4-0 with Allan the man of the match. Lennie Holmes lost out 4-2 and Michael Pinnington lost out 4-1. Shaun Fox (25.88) won 4-2 which included a 170 checkout; Steve Laybourn lost out 4-0; then Craig Vickers (27.10) won 4-2. Essex lost the next 2-sets, Danny McIntyre losing 4-1 and Matt Garrett 4-2; before Alan Collins won 4-2 and Southend's Ben Adams won 4-1 on his return after a 9-year break.

Once again Essex went into Sunday 10-8 down and the **Ladies 'A'** started well with wins from Pauline Donat (20.04) and Stacey Ellis (18.35); Wendy Collins and Karen Breen lost out 3-1 and 3-0 respectively, before Sue Baker (22.79) secured a draw and the match award. Donna Gleed lost a close fought final set 3-2 after leading 2-0.

The **Men's 'A'** started with the manager Tony Osborne losing out 4-1 before putting together a run of five victories in the next 6-sets. Both Richie Howson (26.71) and Southend's Paul Marsh (27.27) won 4-2; Jamie Peetoom lost a cracking match 4-3; followed by a 4-3 triumph from Phil Brewster against Essex old boy Steve Maish; then a man of the match performance from Phil Halls (27.74), winning 4-2, and then another brilliant game seeing Andrew Kateley come out a 4-3 winner. John Costigan had double trouble and lost out to Lancashire's man of the match 4-1; Joe Russell promoted to the 'A' for the weekend run out a 4-0 victor. Another humdinger of a game saw Darren Peetoom loses out 4-1 before Steve Johnson (24.44) gave the 'A' team the much-deserved win; however, the weekend escaped us as Steve Haggerty suffered a 4-3 defeat in yet another superb match; therefore, an overall well-earned draw.