

BRITISH INTER COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS
PREMIER DIVISION

ESSEX vs LINCOLNSHIRE

Not the start Essex were hoping for going down 25-14 at the Blues Club, Gainsborough.

The **Ladies 'B'** started well enough with Tracey Newman (13.91) winning the opening set 3-2; however the lead was short lived as Essex's Ann Farmer, Sharon Wakeling and Lynn Kelly all lost out; prior to both Kelvedon's Dawn Kennedy (15.29) and Springfield's Leanne Peetoom (16.63) winning 3-1 to give the ladies a hard earned draw.

The **Men's 'B'** raced into a 4-1 lead with Rayleigh Rascal's Michael Pinnington winning the opening set 4-3; Chelmsford's Matthew Garrett (27.83) won the next set 4-0; before Lennie Holmes (Rayleigh Rascals) losing out 4-2. Next up was the first of two debutants, Clacton Railway's Shaun Fox (32.30), won 4-1 with winning legs of 15, 16, 12 and 15; Shaun also winning the highest BICC 'B' average weekend award. Danny McIntyre (Kelvedon) checked out with 156 in the 4-leg to win 4-0; before Jakob Kelly (Brightlingsea) lost out 4-2. The second half did not go as well as Essex recorded only one victory; Brightlingsea's Michael Hancocks and Alan Collins went down 4-3 and 4-0 respectively and Collier Row's Joe Russel lost out 4-2. Chelmsford's Craig Vickers (25.89) won the tenth set 4-1; but Kelvedon's Steven Laybourn lost out 4-1 on his debut, and Chelmsford's Simon Monk suffered defeat in the last set; therefore, the Men's 'B' going down 7-5.

Going into Sunday 10-8 down, the **Ladies 'A'** started well going 3-1 up but ending up with a draw. Chelmsford's Sue Baker (18.83) won the opening set 3-1; Pauline Donat (Chelmsford) lost out 3-0 before Kelvedon's Stacey Ellis (19.84) lay claim to the match award with a 3-1 triumph, followed by a superb 3-2 victory from Colchester's Karen Breen (18.52). The ladies lost the final two-sets from Wendy Collins (Chelmsford) and Donna Gleed (Springfield).

The **Men's 'A'** pulled a set back with Cressing's Steve Haggerty (30.10) winning the first set 4-2 and the man of the match award; Brightlingsea's Wayne Bloomfield lost out 4-2 and Darren Peetoom (Collier Row) lost out 4-1, before Brentwood's Steve Johnson (27.45) won 4-0 scoring a maximum and checking out on 121. Unfortunately, Essex lost the next five-set and the weekend with defeats for Brightlingsea's Allan Mathieson and Tony Osborne; Kelvedon's Phil Brewster, Collier Row's Jamie Peetoom and Tilbury's Wayne Gleed. Tilbury's Richie Howson (27.08) won 4-0, however that was it as Southend's John Costigan lost 4-0 and Canvey Starr's Phil Halls lost out 4-2.