

# BRITISH INTER COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS PREMIER DIVISION

## ESSEX vs YORKSHIRE

Chelmsford Social Club hosted the latest Inter-counties Premier division fixture against top of the table Yorkshire.

The **Ladies 'B'** started well with Rebecca Farmer (Braintree) laying claim to the match award with a 3-2 win; Leanne Peetoom (Canvey) won 3-0 however they went down 4-2.

The **Men's 'B'** match was class, with Yorkshire up for revenge after losing their title to Essex last season. Essex started the better with Colchester's Eddie Gosling (27.08) opening with a 4-0 victory and taking the man of the match award; Rayleigh Rascal's Lennie Holmes (26.14) won 4-3 and Chelmsford's Andrew Kateley (26.18) won the 4<sup>th</sup> set 4-3. The next three sets were all taken 4-3 by Yorkshire with Steve Haggerty (South), Shaun Walsh (Laindon) and John Costigan (Southend) losing out. Bryan Margerison (Brightlingsea) won the 9<sup>th</sup>-set and Matt Garrett (Chelmsford) won the 10<sup>th</sup> set to pull Essex level; however Essex couldn't take either if the final two-sets as they lost 7-5.

The **Ladies 'A'** lost all 6-sets to a very good Yorkshire team, only Donna Gleed came close losing out 3-2 to Lorraine Winstanley.

The quality within the **Mens 'A'** match was there for all to see as 19 maximums were scored in the 12 sets, 10 came from Essex players; however Essex just couldn't find winning doubles as they found themselves 7-1 down with only Canvey's Phil Hall (29.43) winning the 2<sup>nd</sup>-set 4-3 and awarded the man of the match. Essex did win four of the last 5-sets to make the score line more realistic. Southend's Paul Barham won 4-3; Springfield's Craig Vickers (26.09) also won 4-3; Wayne Gleed (29.04) won 4-2 and Paul Marsh (Southend) won the final set 4-3.

Therefore Essex lost the weekend 27-12 and find themselves bottom of the Premier; so much work to do in 2017, starting with Cheshire away in Crewe.