

England Squash Junior Inter-County Championships 2012/13 – Stage 1

REPORT – Girls' U-15



Hampshire hosted the Girls' U-15 Stage 1, at the Trojans Club, and the Sussex Team of Jazz Hutton (Captain), Alice Rose, Megan North, Beth Currid, Brooke Benwell, and Torrie Malik enjoyed a wonderfully successful day, beating Hampshire and Dorset 4/1, and only losing 3/2 to a very useful Surrey side. They thus finished second, and it is to be hoped that the impressive 43 points total they earned will be sufficient to progress to the 'Winners' Group in Stage 2, as the best runners-up from the three Stage 1 groups.

Jazz and Brooke deserve great credit for remaining unbeaten on the day, and 'best performance' must go to Jazz for her tactically astute 3/2 win over her old nemesis, Rawan El Kalaawy, the Surrey Number 1, but only just behind was Alice Roses tenacious comeback from 2/0 down, to defeat the previously unbeaten Dorset Number 2.

It was a fine team performance, who have gained so much experience and confidence since their debuts 3 years ago, and if they don't progress successfully to Stage 2 in the New Year, it will be more a reflection of the absurdity of England Squash's insistence on the dubious concept of a 'best runner-up' (that view has been politely conveyed to them), than on any shortcoming of the players involved!

Graham Stevenson 15.10.12