

LADIES MASTERS COMPETITION REPORT

The Masters Ladies held their postponed event at RAF Halton on Thu 20 Oct 16.

Play commenced at 1030 hrs with the RAF taking both their first round rubbers against the Navy third pair and Army second pair. The remaining rubber between the first pairs was an extremely hard fought match, going the distance and being decided in a very tight third set tie break which the Army won over the Navy. The match lasting over two hours.

In the second round, honours were even with the Navy winning against the Army at three (see note below*), the RAF winning against the Navy at two and the Army beating the RAF in the first pairing. With all still to play for in the final round, the Navy picked up their second rubber against the RAF at one. The Army picked up their third rubber against the Navy at two and the RAF picked up their fourth rubber against the Army at three.

*The Navy third pair did include a player just outside the age criteria for the Masters and therefore on countback their rubbers could not be counted. With that in mind, the final scores on the day were:

- Army: Four rubbers
- RAF: Four rubbers
- Navy: One rubber

The overall winners were the RAF Ladies team as they had wins (2 – 1) over each of the other two Services!

It was a really great day's tennis lasting over six hours with some excellent quality play and as per usual plenty of intense but sporting Inter – Service rivalry. There was good court side support for all the Services who made themselves heard at all times. The facilities at Halton were excellent, including three indoor courts, post competition refreshments and the conference room for the trophy presentation, which was kindly carried out by Lt Col Tessa Grieves RRC.

My thanks to the following for making this event happen:

- Brig Darrell – for approving the event and funding
- Josh Petty – for agreeing funding for the courts
- Helen – for her support and information
- Anna Loder / Nicky Spurgeon – for supporting and assisting me in getting this event up and running
- RAF Halton – for the use of their facilities
- Louise Waterhouse – for acting as my Deputy and coordinating the photographer (pictures yet to be seen)
- All the players – for making the effort to travel without funding and to play such great competitive tennis

Kim Martin
UK AFLTC Ladies Masters Captain