

Squash Handicap Competition - 20th November 2015

With a couple of last minute injury cancellations we had a great turnout of 18 competitors for a fun evening of handicap squash. We had an allocated range of handicaps from -27 to +6 showing the full range of squash league players entering, including one of the tennis coaches! (Paul McArdle...more on this later) which was fantastic and the whole point of the competition.

The players were sub divided into 4 leagues; with each level of handicap allocated, they played each other within the league and total points accumulated across all their games became their final score. The player with the highest total score winning the league. This resulted in Sean McCloy v Paul McArdle and Steve Hambling v Samer Karouni progressing to semi-finals; best of 3 games. Even with Jordan turning up to 'encourage' his fellow coach (saying he would have liked to have entered ... but his tennis coaching had got in the way that night!) luckily for us squash players not losing face to tennis Sean pulled through to win....phew! In the other semi a very close and tightly fought game Samer beat the highly ranked and always determined Steve. So Sean v Samer in the final; again over 3 games. The length and number of games having been played was finally telling on both players and it was becoming survival of the fittest.....with Sean finally winning with his power play, but very well played Samer

A good percentage of players then retired to the bar for a few well-earned drinks and prize giving. Well done to all competitors for a very enjoyable evening....with a lot voicing they would like similar to occur on a more regular basis....with the 'emotional strain' always telling on the organiser and annual squash championships looming in April we will see. Hopefully a handicap Racquetball competition will be planned for early in 2016.

Jon Sandford
Competition Organiser