

Inter County competition : 4 Way :: Kent - Hertfordshire - Sussex - Essex & Suffolk

Team Essex & Suffolk comprised of:

Junior archers: all recurve

Ben Moir
Sam Moir
Rhiannon Easton
Andrew Lock
Ella Clampin
Siri Mantravadi

Adult archers:

<u>Compound</u>	<u>Recurve</u>	<u>Barebow</u>	<u>Longbow</u>
Daisy Clark	Kevin Juniper	Mark Turner	Mark Lawrence
David Fellman	Andrew Smith		Sharon Lawrence
Mike Gissing	Martin Skinner		Bob Attalia
Charles Mallion	Joanne Moir		Eric Mallet
Tony Sewell	Paul West		
	Allan Horne		

Team Essex & Suffolk arrived at the competition ground with time to spare for most of the archers with a couple of late arrivals.

Team manager Sharon Lawrence had a delay due to a domestic situation which resulted in a return home after reaching Ebbsfleet but they made it to the ground in plenty of time.

Weather was sunny intervals with a blustery breeze / wind, this made the sighters a little challenging to get a sight mark for the first distance and caused the nerves to kick in a little, but all the team were supportive and this helped keep the team focused.

After the usual formalities- registration, equipment inspection, and assembly the team tried to get a team photo but due the delays in some people arriving this proved a little difficult and the suggestion (from Andrew Smith) was that we have one at the end with the trophy, a bold statement but proved to be a glimpse into the future, but more about that later.

Just before the start of the practice session the team manager Sharon gave a little pep talk to all the archers and welcomed the newcomers to the county squad and just ask them to relax and enjoy the day they were all there as a result of their ability and would be great competitors and ambassadors for the counties.

Practice rounds started a little later than planned and all the archers used the time well to make the necessary adjustments to their sights as a result of a blustery wind that was proving difficult to read as it was changing in force and direction.

Once practice was completed the archers all settled into their routines and the support crew (parents and partners) were walking along and offering encouragement up and down the shooting line, as well as sweets provided by the manager

At the halfway stage with the two furthest distances completed the standings were as follows:

Senior Recurve team were second with a score of 2020

Senior compound team were first with a score of 2438 (helped by a six gold end for Tony Sewell)

Senior longbow team were second with a score of 768

Senior barebow (Mark Turner) was the only representative in this class and was fourth with a very credible 315

Mixed cadets were in third place with a score of 2325, 5 points behind Kent and 286 behind Hertfordshire.

After the lunch break there was a significant delay to the restart due to the mix up where sighted and barebow/longbow archers were competing on the same bosses but at the distance change at halfway this caused issues as the faces for the different styles were different sizes and this resulted in a significant delay and required some archers to move targets so that the restart could happen.

Once underway again (around 1 hour late) the challenge of moving to the smaller faces and sight mark changes hit some of the junior archers from all counties and they took a little longer to settle but did eventually find their mark and rhythm.

Our team manager was posting very good longbow scores and was on target for a personal best and potentially a new county record but there was still a final distance to shoot and rain showers and wind to contend with but Sharon was focused on both and would not be distracted.

The final push at the last distance was supported by the support crew walking the line and ensuring all the archers were aware of how well each group were doing and the final push from all could make the difference.

With the parents watching all the juniors and supporting them they all came into their own with all of them scoring over 1000 points for the age appropriate rounds from metric 1 to metric 4 and first place finishes for Ella clampin (1188) Metric 3, Siri Matravadi (1267) Metric 4, Rhiannon Easton (1031) Metric 2, Ben Moir (1240) Metric 3, Sam Moir (1029) Metric 2 and a second place finish for Andrew Lock (1023) shooting the Metric 1.

At the end of the competition the groups finished in the following positions:

Senior Recurve - second 4239 just losing out to Hertfordshire who scored 4305, Jo Moir the only female recurve finished a credible third in her group.

Senior Compound - second 5078 just losing out to Sussex who scored 5124

Senior Longbow - second 2100 losing to Kent who scored 2324

Seniors Barebow (Or Mark Turner) head chef on a one man sub scored a very credible 739 and finished fourth in the team even (not surprising) but finished 2nd in the individual scores, well done Mark.

Mixed cadets - finished first improving on their third place at the halfway stage with a combined score of 6661 ahead of Hertfordshire in second place who scored 5722.

Overall combined scores were as follows:

Essex and Suffolk first place with a total score of 18817

Hertfordshire second place with a total score of 17858

Kent third place with a total score of 17852

Sussex fourth place with a total score of 11978

Well done to all the archers from the four counties and very special well done to all the Essex & Suffolk archers you did your counties proud.

Well done to the team manger Sharon Lawrence who has a 100% winning record so far.



Winners



Proud manager



Junior winners

