

# **BLTC Club Championship's 2020 Final's Day Report**

## **by Greg Read**

This year's club final's day will certainly be one to remember not just for the fantastic level of tennis on show but mainly due to the strange times we are all currently facing. The Championship's started back in August, 10 weeks or so later and 21 finals, a mini Red U8 tournament and a mini Orange U9 tournament were all scheduled for final's day on Sunday 25th October. Despite the unpredictable English weather and the difficulties surrounding Covid 19 all finals and events scheduled were played and completed.

There was no time to waste as play got underway from 9am with many junior singles finals and the men's vets singles finals. The weather started out promisingly with sunny spells, however it wasn't long before the rain came and play was unfortunately suspended for around 30 minutes. Having said that, a couple of 'die hard' juniors stuck at it through the heavy rain (I think they enjoyed it more!). Thankfully the weather cleared and play resumed with some extremely competitive matches, most notably the men's 60+ singles and Girls U14 singles. Both went to deciding match tie breaks with players on court for almost 3 hours!

The weather and long singles matches from 9am meant the 10:30am matches were delayed slightly but the sun was out by this point and so 6 more matches commenced including the ladies doubles open final and men's singles open final. We also had the mini Red U8 event taking place, it was great to see many of our mini members competing and enjoying themselves. For many, it was their first ever tournament and with so many smiles on little faces, I'm sure it won't be their last! Highlights from the 10:30am matches included a close boys U16 doubles final and an excellent men's singles final open.

Moving into the afternoon many more finals were played including the remaining adult open finals. The closest match being the ladies singles, which like the men's also went the distance. Following on from a successful mini red tournament in the morning, the mini Orange U9 event was also a great success. Boys and girls competed within their groups in an attempt to reach the semi finals and then the final. Again, this was many of the children's first ever tournament and win or lose, they all enjoyed themselves.

As competition organiser and tournament referee I was extremely pleased and proud to be involved in this year's BLTC Club Championship's. For me personally it's the highlight of the year for the club and even though due to Covid 19 we had to play it during Autumn, limit the number of spectators, no refreshments etc... the tennis was fantastic, the atmosphere was great and it was so nice to see and feel the club

buzzing again. Not once did I get called on to court to settle any disputes, which is testament to how well the players conducted themselves, especially the juniors who all played with great desire and respect to their opponents.

Before I sign off, I must mention a few people and thank them immensely for their help on the day. Firstly, Ben Nicholson who did a great job running the mini Red U8 event with the help of the parents. Eloise Bancilhon who was fantastic all day shooting people with the temperature gun and making sure people signed in for track and trace purposes. Amazingly, we had over 120 people signed in throughout the day all of which had a great time and kept social distancing impeccably well. Jenny Cox from the Tennis Committee who helped me with the trophies and presenting. Finally, to all the members who not only took part and played on finals day but also to those who popped down to support the club.

Who knows what's around the corner with this pandemic but what I do know is with the members we have and if we're allowed, we can repeat the same next year and look forward to another great finals day... hopefully in the Summer! Enjoy your tennis, make every second on the court count but most importantly stay safe.

Greg

P.S. If anyone has any photos from the day, please send to Joan,  
[admin@byfleetltc.com](mailto:admin@byfleetltc.com)

## **Results:**

**Men's Singles Open;** Jamie Boden beat Angelo Aparte 7-6, 3-6, 6-4

**Men's Doubles Open;** Katano/Aparte beat Lister/Fisher 6-1, 6-4

**Ladies Singles Open;** Elena Mileva beat Anna Craigen 6-1, 2-6, 10-5

**Ladies Doubles Open;** Runnicles/Mileva beat Tierney/Burrage 6-1, 7-5

**Mixed Doubles Open;** Winton/Burrage beat Nicholson/Craigen 6-0, 6-3

**Men's Singles 40+;** Ed Bowen beat Colin Boxer 6-1, 6-1

**Ladies Doubles 40+;** Hunt/Sabey beat Wheeldon/Shortt 6-4, 4-6, 10-5

**Mixed Doubles 40+;** Roberts/Shortt beat Richmond/Deung 6-3, 6-0

**Men's Singles 60+;** Jerry Kearns beat Ahmed Mouneimneh 6-4, 6-7, 10-6

**Men's Doubles 60+;** Nash/Kearns beat Norton/Cartledge 6-1, 6-3

**Boys U16 Singles;** Max Clarke beat Harry Capper 6-0, 6-0

**Boys U14 Singles;** Toby Clarke beat Alex Kapsalis 6-1, 6-0

**Boys U12 Singles;** Oliver Krikorian beat Joseph Callow 6-3, 7-6

**Boys U16 Doubles;** Loy/Allard beat Capper/Southon 2-6, 7-6, 10-2

**Boys U12 Doubles;** Knowles/Callow beat Craigen/Tierney 6-4, 6-2

**Girls U16 Singles;** Millie Bunyan beat Mila Deist 6-3, 6-4

**Girls U14 Singles;** Olivia Emmerson beat Katherine Sumner 6-7, 6-3, 10-6

**Girls U12 Singles;** Zara Murphy beat Hannah Giddings 6-3, 6-1

**Girls U16 Doubles;** Bunyan/Sage beat Capper/Weston 6-4, 6-1

**Girls U14 Doubles;** Emmerson/Sumner beat Sage/Whatley 6-2, 6-0

**Mixed U10 Singles;** James Krikorian beat Ethan Laurent 4-2, 4-1

**Mixed U9 Singles;** Winner Dylan Bareham

**Mixed U8 Singles;** Winner Benji Cox