



LANSDOWN TENNIS CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS 2026 - IT'S A WRAP! 🏆

Congratulations to all of the players on a fantastic day of tennis. There were some extremely close matches, with four of the ten matches going down to the wire and being decided by Championship tie-breaks!

To kick off the morning, the first four matches provided some great tennis, with mother and daughter duo, Jennie and Rebecca Lloyd, retaining their Women's Open Doubles title in an exciting and tightly contested match, clawing their way back in the Championship tie-break to secure the win against Marjan van Gelderen & Sophie Andell. Karen King was on fine form, beating Sandra Niedersberg to retain her Women's Senior Singles title. Meanwhile, Louise Jones celebrated her first title, winning the Women's Vets Singles against Caroline Gelinet with a solid performance. In the last match of the morning, Stuart Patton clinched the victory in a fantastic and fast-paced match, winning the tie-break against reigning Men's Senior Singles champ, Stephen Mallaband. Congratulations also to Tony Norris who was awarded the Men's Vets Singles trophy (walkover) as his opponent was unfortunately unable to play.

🍔 Before BBQ burgers could be flipped, the next matches were up... Alex Hudson gave a masterclass performance in precision and timing and there were some incredible rallies with his opponent, Freddy Hiscott. Alex's game, however, proved too difficult for Freddy to break, and Alex emerged the victor, taking the Men's Open Singles in fine style. Last year's Runners-Up in the Senior Mixed Doubles, Karen King & Jon Foulds, took the first set against opponents Marjan van Gelderen & Stuart Patton. However, following yet another nail-biting Championship tie-break battle, Marjan & Stuart seized the advantage to take the trophy home. The sun was still shining as the late-afternoon matches began...

Marjan van Gelderen & Catherine March-Smith were determined to retain their Women's Senior Doubles title, and this they did, but only after a tough battle which went to another deciding tie-break against the stiff opposition of Karen King & Sandra Niedersberg. The Men's Open Doubles saw Oscar Wain & Alex Hudson vs. Jason Collins & Stephen Mallaband and provided a great spectacle, with hard-hitting and razor-sharp reactions on display from both sides. This was Lansdown Tennis at its best, and the match was full of incredible agility and skill. Oscar and Alex found their rhythm to gain the edge and powered their way to victory. The shot of the day, however, has to go to Jason Collins, for a perfect drop shot loaded with so much back spin that, after landing in the opposition's court, the ball spun back over the net to his side.

In the final matches of the day, Jax Ma and Rebecca Lloyd squared up against Karen King & Jon Foulds in the Mixed Open Doubles. It was a very entertaining match, full of long rallies and skilful tennis. Jax and Rebecca soon found their rhythm, and, with some perfect placement of the ball, and strong overhead smashes, eventually overcame Karen and Jon to take the title. The light was starting to fade as defending Women's Open Singles champion, Rebecca Lloyd, took to the court against Karen King in the last match of the Champs, both women having put on a remarkable display of resilience and stamina, having played several finals throughout the day. Many of the games went to deuce (several times!) but Rebecca's determination held fast, as she went on to retain her title as the Women's Open Singles champion. 🏆

THANK YOU TO ALL OF THE VOLUNTEERS ON THE DAY:

🎾 the umpires: Stephen Clifford, Anthony Griffiths, Joe Harris, Martin Loughridge, Lorna Montgomery, David Munn, Tom Osborne

🎾 the line judges: Mark Griffiths, Stephen Clifford

🎾 other helpers on the day, including Steven Sage & Sandy Osborne

and of course a **huge thank you to Stephen Clifford**, who volunteered to run this year's **Championships** and to **Jo and the whole Bar team for the BBQ** and for the smooth-running of the bar on a very busy day!