

Two late drop out's meant 10 players competed for this seasons prestige domestic event The Suffolk Britannia Top 12 Invitation Table Tennis Tournament at the Britannia Table Tennis Club in Ipswich on Sunday

The ten players were drawn into two groups in pairs so as to be as even as possible, then all players played the other members of their group to determine final positions with the top two in each group going into the semi finals,

In group one there were no seeding upsets as Suffolk Men's County Champion Kian Burgess and James Davies Stokes won all their matches, though new to the Ipswich league this season Glen Johnson took the first leg in his encounter with Davies Stokes before losing 3-1, Paul Broxton although losing 3-0 to Davies Stokes took the first two sets to duece, and Broxton accounted for Johnson 3-0 in fine style, as Jack Sampson lost to Johnson 3-0 to decide fourth and fifth place.

In group two there were a number of seeding upsets, all involving joint third seed Daniel Shelley, who was the second seed in this group, In his first match Luke Davies Stokes caused him problems though Shelley just came home in four sets, he then just lost out to Andrew Doshier in a five set thriller having led 5-2 in the final set, then he came from 0-2 down against Charles Fulcher to draw level at 2-2 and have two match points in the final set before losing out, in his final match with joint top seed for the event Andrew Warner he trailed 0-1 and 1-2 before showing the form he is capable of winning 11-6 in the decider. Unfortunately despite this victory with two wins along side Charles Fulcher, it wasn't enough to get to the semi finals for as Warner and Doshier had both won three matches to go through to the semi final, Warner having beaten Doshier 3-0 in an enteratining match meant the victory between them decided first and second spot as did Fulchers win over Shelley for third and fourth place, Luke despite taking games off players in a few games came fifth.

In the first semi final Kian Burgess was too strong for Andrew Doshier winning 3-0, while the second semi final was a classic five setter between James Davies Stokes and Andrew Warner, Warner took the first easily and was comfortable in the second however his opponent is made of strong stuff and after a number of long rallies it was Davies Stokes that took it from 6-9 down and this gave him more confidence as he went for his power shots more and went 2-1 up, Warner seemed up against it now but somehow found a way to take the fourth at duece but it was Davies Stokes that looked the more likely in the decider as he led at the change of ends and 7-5 before Warner with a few smart shots and a couple of looser shots from his opponent came though 11-7 in a game Davies Stokes could have won.

In the final the first set was as tight as you can get as Kian Burgess looked to move Andrew Warner about and drop the ball short while as ever Warner looked to feed off his opponent's pace and get in with his own shots, and at 9-9 it was Burgess that took it, the second set mirrored the first set with Warner having to cover a lot of ground, however at the end of the set he led 10-8, but Burgess came good with four straight points to take it and lead 2-0, In the third set Burgess with his confidence made a good start in the third and although Warner never gave up he was always chasing the game now as the third set was comfortable for Burgess as he took his first title at this event

Semi finals

Kian Burgess beat Andrew Doshier 6 7 8

Andrew Warner beat James Davies Stokes 5 -12 -7 10 7

Final: Kian Burges beat Andrew Warner 9 10 7

3rd / 4th James Davies Stokes beat Andrew Doshier 4 9 -8 4

5th / 6th Charles Fulcher beat Paul Broxton -5 6 5 -6 9

7th / 8th Glen Johnson beat Daniel Shelley -4 7 8 -4 6

9th / 10th Luke Davies Stokes beat Jack Samson -12 6 -9 5 8