

## High/Low Tournament held at Cambridge September 4th-5th 2021

Winners: Di Wilson and Rosie Taylor

Finalists: Pam Tomalin and Sarah Sullivan



This popular tournament was a doubly enjoyable affair, as the first LRTA event since the beginning of lockdown, and being held at Cambridge for the first time.

The Cambridge Club Room is being upgraded, and promised to be finished, but sadly wasn't. So we may not have had running water, a working fridge or any way to bake a baguette, but we had loads of tennis, lots of laughs and some wonderfully entertaining competitive matches.

The format of high-low (highest handicap player paired with lowest handicap; second highest with second lowest, etc) always leads to the various pairs having very similar doubles handicaps, and thus games are closely fought. Six pairs, who played every other pair in the best-of-8-game matches. It was originally seven pairs, but one pair sadly had to pull out due to illness.

The youngest contestant was the big surprise for most. Felicity Riddall Bell, who has just had her 14<sup>th</sup> birthday, was paired with Rebecca Kashti...and they were worth watching, as Felicity leapt, ran and hit volleys enthusiastically; and Rebecca played steady elegant tennis to anchor the partnership. Felicity is definitely one to watch for the future.

However, the two finalist pairs were more traditional partnerships: Di Wilson & newcomer student Rosie Taylor; against Sarah Sullivan & our former High/Low organiser Pam Tomalin (note that three out of four finalists were current or former LRTA Committee members – but definitely not a fix-up).

Di and Rosie came through convincingly 8/4 to win their glass bowl trophies, with a display (from Rosie) of terrifyingly hard shots, while Di served with aplomb and made hardly any errors. The other semi-finalists were Philippa Wells & Jacqueline Siu; and Linda Fairbrother & Jill Akers.

