## **Squash Report 2025**

Good evening, everyone. For those that don't know me my name is Mark Blake and I help to look after and guide the squash section.

The season got off to a good start back in February with the section hosting the UK Racket Ball East of England event, this was well represented by members of the club and kindly sponsored by squash member Peter Izzatt and his company, Silverhook.

Following on in the racket ball series Amber Marshall retained her Ladies National Championship title, is British Open Champion and played #1 for England in the Home Internationals...

We also hosted a bronze event squash tournament, the Broxbourne Squash Open 2025. This bought players in from all over the country. and was a resounding success.

Membership was due in September, and we had a 97% re-join uptake.

Thanks to several members persistence we have good active box leagues in both squash and racketball now in operation.

This winter we have 2 teams competing in the Herts Squash League, one in div1 the other in div4.. these have gone down a storm and have been well supported so far with both teams more than holding there own.. thanks to the team captains Ted Jeal and Craig Perry.

We recently ran a racketball handicap tournament, we are currently running a squash tournament, and we have the ever-popular Xmas Racket Ball Doubles tournament coming up in Dec. and there will be a squash handicap event coming up soon.

From a maintenance stance, we will be looking at starting a refurb program in the next few weeks, as we haven't done anything for a few years. I'm looking to see if this work can be kept in-house to keep costs down.

To support our section and the teams this year we reached out to members and gathered sponsorship, the advertising boards and tin banners are clearly visible.

There are a few people I need to thank. Craig Perry for being a nuisance and getting teams, box leagues and tournaments going.

Dave Cording for his work doing the leagues, Elaine and Jill for their work helping with scheduling tournaments, Mark Neville for his sponsorship help, the sponsors for their help supporting the section and to you the members for rejoining this year and supporting the teams.

For the future, as I said we will be looking to start refurb soon, we are hosting the East of England event again in February, we hope to have another Broxbourne Open in April/ March and will look to host the Herts Closed later in the year.