

English Schools Team Championships: **Four Warwickshire Schools qualify for the Regional Finals**

The English Schools Team Championships – Zone 5 Finals took place at Wood Green Academy on Saturday 14th and Sunday 15th January 2023. The winning school (and in some cases the runner up) from each county took part in these Zone Finals.

Events took place in the under 11 girls and boys, under 13 boys, under 16 girls and boys, and under 19 girls and boys, with over 28 teams taking part across the two days.

Under 11 Girls

Blackminster Middle School (Worcestershire) beat Juniper Hill Primary School (Buckinghamshire) 5-3.

Under 11 Boys

Juniper Hill Primary School (Buckinghamshire) beat Pearl Hyde Primary School (Warwickshire) 8-0, and The Littleton's First School (Worcestershire) 6-2. Littleton's beat Pearl Hyde 5-3 to secure the runners up spot.



Above: Pearl Hyde Primary School.

Under 13 Boys

The largest event with seven teams. **Chesham Grammar School** (Buckinghamshire) beat Bromsgrove School (Worcestershire) 7-1, having only beaten Tudor Grange Academy (Warwickshire) 4-4, 13-12 sets, in the semi-finals. Bromsgrove School had beaten Royal Grammar School, Worcester 5-3 in the other semi-final. Aylesbury Grammar School (Bucks) beat Wycliffe Prep School (Gloucestershire) 6-2 in the 5th and 6th play offs. Sandwell Academy (Black Country) finished 7th.

Tudor Grange Academy were without their number 1 player, who was unavailable, however, credit to the boys who still reached the semi-finals and only missed out on a final place through count back. Rex Ho finished the day on 100% without losing a set.



Above: Tudor Grange Academy.

Under 13 Girls

Wycombe High School and Burnham Grammar (both from Buckinghamshire) were the only two teams in the under 13 girls' event, and having played already in the county competition, they both qualified for the Regionals directly.

Under 16 Girls

Rugby High School (Warwickshire) topped the table with three wins from three, beating Prince Henry's High School (Worcestershire) 7-1, Burnham Grammar School (Buckinghamshire) 5-3, and Bromsgrove School (Worcestershire) 6-2. Bromsgrove School finished second with two wins; with Burnham Grammar beating Prince Henry's High School to finish 3rd.



Above: Rugby High School.

Under 16 Boys

The under 16 boys comprised of five teams, and was the most competitive event of the weekend, with lots of very tight matches going the distance, and several draws between teams. Warwick School (Warwickshire) topped the table with two wins against John Hampden Grammar School (Buckinghamshire) 5-3 and Hagley Catholic High School (Black Country) 7-1, and two draws against Dr Challoners Grammar School (Bucks) and Royal Grammar School, Worcester. Second place went to John Hampden who alongside Dr Challoners finished on 5 points, but the head-to-head between the schools was a close 5-3 win (7 out of 8 matches going to the 5th set) to John Hampden. Fourth place went to Royal Grammar School, Worcester, and Hagley Catholic School finished 5th.



Above: Warwick School.

Under 19 Girls

Two teams competed in the under 19 girls' event, which is played as a 2-a-side competition. **Prince Henry's High School** won the match 3-2 against St Peter's Catholic School, the doubles being the crucial match. Hanne Pui Yu Chui won both her singles matches for St Peter's.



Above: St Peter's Catholic School (left) and Prince Henry's High School (right).

Under 19 Boys

Another close event with several draws between teams. **Bromsgrove School** (Worcestershire) won, beating Tudor Grange Academy (Warwickshire) on count back. Both teams finished on 6 points (two wins and two draws), but Bromsgrove School won one extra set in their head-to-head match, which was also a draw. Prince Henry's High School (Worcestershire) finished 3rd, Marling School (Gloucestershire) 4th and Sir Henry Floyd Grammar School (Buckinghamshire) 5th.

Special mention must go to **Tudor Grange Academy** who competed with only three players, due to two of their players being unavailable at the last minute. The determination, commitment, and team spirit of the three players (Sean, Jaymas and Jack) helped them to qualify for the Regional Finals in February in second place.



Above: Tudor Grange Academy.

It was great to see the following Colebridge players representing their schools with pride: Sean, Jaymas, Jack, Rex, Haymas, Starry and Hanne.