



Badminton England National Schools Championships 2018-19

Northumberland/Tyne & Wear County Round

Delivered by Badminton England and local partners, the National Schools Championships is the largest youth badminton initiative, allowing young people from across the country to represent their schools in local, regional and national competitions. Delivered at Blyth Sports Centre on Thursday 28th February, the County Round of the Northumberland/Tyne & Wear National Schools Championships saw nine schools competing across the four events (Key Stage 3 Boys, Key Stage 3 Girls, Key Stage 4 Boys and Key Stage 4 Girls).

The event was delivered by Norma and Mike Waterfield, in partnership with Badminton England, and saw over one hundred young people aged 11-16 representing their schools throughout the day.

The morning event saw both Key Stage 3 competitions in action with six teams in the Key Stage 3 boys' event and six teams in the Key Stage 3 girls' event.

Key Stage 3 Boys Competition

The boys' competition was split into two groups with The Duchess High School (Alnwick), Ponteland High School and Gosforth Academy battling it out in Group 1 while Cramlington Learning Village, Ponteland Middle School and Longridge Towers School (Berwick) faced each other in Group 2.

After all group matches had been played, Ponteland High School claimed the top spot in Group 1, winning both of their matches 5-0, and Gosforth Academy finished in second place, narrowly beating The Duchess High School, 3-2.

Similarly, Ponteland Middle School topped the table in Group 2, beating Cramlington Learning Village 4-1 and Longridge Towers 5-0. Cramlington Learning Village then secured a 4-1 victory over Longridge Towers to ensure they progressed to the semi-finals.

These group standings meant that the semi-finals saw Ponteland High School face Cramlington Learning Village and Ponteland Middle School take on Gosforth Academy. Ponteland High School secured a convincing 3-0 win over Cramlington Learning Village while Gosforth Academy just sneaked a 3-2 win against Ponteland Middle School.

As Ponteland High School had beaten Gosforth Academy 5-0 in the group stage, it was agreed between the two schools that a final would not be played so Ponteland High School were the automatic winners.



**Ponteland High School –
KS3 Boys Winners**



**Gosforth Academy –
KS3 Boys Runners Up**

Key Stage 3 Girls Competition

The Key Stage 3 girls' competition was also split into two groups with The Duchess High School (Alnwick), Cramlington Learning Village and Newcastle High School for Girls playing against each other in Group 1 while Gosforth Academy, Ponteland Middle School and Longridge Towers School (Berwick) faced each other in Group 2. After all group matches had been played, Cramlington Learning Village finished in first place in Group 1, winning both of their matches 3-2 and Newcastle High School for Girls finished in second place, beating The Duchess High School, 5-0. In Group 2, Longridge Towers School secured the top spot by winning both matches 3-2 and Gosforth Academy narrowly beat Ponteland Middle School 3-2, to claim the last place in the semi-finals.

These group standings meant that the semi-finals saw Cramlington Learning Village take on Gosforth Academy with Cramlington securing a closely contested 3-2 win and Newcastle High School for Girls lost out 3-1 against Longridge Towers School in the second semi-final.

The final of the Key Stage 3 girls' competition then saw Cramlington Learning Village gain a 3-1 victory over Longridge Towers School and claim the gold medals.



**Cramlington Learning Village –
KS3 Girls Winners**



**Longridge Towers School –
KS3 Girls Runners Up**

As the Key Stage 3 competition drew to a close, the Key Stage 4 teams began to arrive and matches got underway. Seven teams competed in the Key Stage 4 boys' event and six teams in the Key Stage 4 girls' event.

Key Stage 4 Boys Competition

As in the Key Stage 3 event, the boys' competition was split into two groups with Gosforth Academy, Longridge Towers School (Berwick), Ponteland High School and Cramlington Learning Village facing each other in Group 1 while The Duchess High School (Alnwick), King Edward VI School (Morpeth) and Emmanuel College played each other in Group 2.

After all group matches were completed, Gosforth Academy finished in first position in Group 1, impressively winning all three of their matches 5-0, and Ponteland High School finished in second place, claiming 5-0 wins over Longridge Towers School and Cramlington Learning Village.

In Group 2, The Duchess High School gained victories over Emmanuel College (4-1) and King Edward VI School (5-0) which placed them at the top of the group then Emmanuel College claimed a very close 3-2 win over King Edward VI School to clinch second place.

The final group positions meant that the semi-finals saw Gosforth Academy against Emmanuel College, with Gosforth claiming an impressive 4-0 win, and Ponteland High School facing The Duchess High School where Ponteland emerged victorious with a 4-1 win.

As Gosforth Academy had beaten Ponteland High School 5-0 in the group stage, it was agreed between the two schools that a final would not be played so Gosforth Academy were the automatic winners.



**Gosforth Academy –
KS4 Boys Winners**



**Ponteland High School –
KS4 Boys Runners Up**

Key Stage 4 Girls Competition

The Key Stage 4 girls' competition involved six teams, split into two groups of three. Group 1 saw The Duchess High School (Alnwick), Newcastle High School for Girls and Longridge Towers School (Berwick) all playing each other and, similarly, Cramlington Learning Village, Gosforth Academy and King Edward VI School (Morpeth) faced each other in Group 2.

Newcastle High School for Girls claimed two impressive 5-0 wins over The Duchess High School and Longridge Towers, placing them first in the group then Longridge Towers narrowly beat The Duchess High School, 3-2, to claim the other semi-final spot.

In Group 2, Gosforth Academy also performed well and claimed two 5-0 victories while Cramlington Learning Village beat King Edward VI School 4-1 to finish in second position.

The semi-finals of the competition then saw Newcastle High School for Girls take on Cramlington Learning Village where Newcastle emerged victorious with another 5-0 win and Longridge Towers were defeated 4-0 by Gosforth Academy.

The final of the Key Stage 4 girls' competition then saw Gosforth Academy continue their winning streak and cement a convincing 4-1 win over Newcastle High School for Girls.



**Gosforth Academy –
KS4 Girls Winners**



**Newcastle High School for Girls –
KS4 Girls Runners Up**

Each match in the competition consisted of 5 rubbers (2x singles and 3x doubles) and matches in the group stages of competition were either one end to 21 points or one end to 15 points (depending on group size). For schools who reached the semi-

finals and final stages of the competition, all games were shortened to 15 points and once one school reached 3 rubbers, the match was finished.

The winners and runners up of each competition will progress to the North East Regional Round, held on Tuesday 2nd April 2019 at Tyneside Badminton Centre. The winners of each competition in the North East Regional Round will then progress to the National Finals on the 4th & 5th May at the National Badminton Centre in Milton Keynes.

Huge thank you to Norma and Mike Waterfield for running the competition and providing a great day of competitive matches that all pupils were able to enjoy!

Norma and Mike Waterfield, Tournament Organisers:

“The whole day was played in an excellent competitive spirit and we thought that the standard this year was definitely higher overall!”