

'Twas the Essex County First Team *(Based on Twas the Night before Christmas)*

Twas the new badminton season, and the players were ready
To step onto that court to play nice and steady
Third season as captain, the team was chosen with care
In the hopes that a trophy would soon be there

The ladies were fit and ready to play
Both old and new were set and here to stay
Lynne and Nic in place and used their experience well,
And Becky fought hard, you wouldn't know she was the new girl

The boys were strong and all set for a win
As long as they kept calm (not saying any names....Brunning!)
The new boys were solid, Arron, Viknesh and Rudy
With Danny and Basil coping with singles, trying to smile and not be moody

With a close first weekend, each of the, 6-5 scores,
I knew each player had chances, "if you want it, it's yours"
The second weekend showed wins when it came,
The team supported and cheered each player by name

Go Nicola, Go Danny, Go Viknesh and Swanny,
Go Basil, Go Arron, Becky, Brunning and Rudy
To the final weekend, to the winning side,
Now play for that win and play with pride!

The last weekend saw great games till the end,
It wasn't quite enough as Hampshire and Sussex ascend
But another great season of badminton, laughs and fun,
Great commitment by all and now we are done

So thanks to the players and the Essex Committee,
Getting through it was tough and often not pretty
Let's plan another season and put in the hard yards,
But perhaps next time, without any red cards.....

By Caroline Westley
Essex County First Team Captain