

BRITISH INTER COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS  
PREMIER DIVISION

ESSEX vs YORKSHIRE

Essex travelled to Castleford for the eighth fixture in the calendar needing as many points as possible to help maintain Premier status.

The worse possible start occurred as the **Ladies 'B'** lost 6-0, winning only 2-legs in the 6-sets played.

The **Men's 'B'** started poorly losing the first 2-sets before Rayleigh Rascal's Michael Pinnington (21.71) got Essex's first point in the 3<sup>rd</sup> set, winning 4-3. Brightlingsea's Allan Mathieson (26.31) and Alan Collins (29.39) added two further points in a disappointing 9-3 loss, and therefore Essex found themselves 15-3 down going into Sunday's 'A' team games.

The **Ladies 'A'** started with a lady of the match performance from Kelvedon's Stacey Ellis (22.43) winning 3-2, further victories from Clacton's Karen Breen (15.35) and Springfield's Donna Gleed (21.22) gave Essex a well-deserved 3-3 draw.

The **Men's 'A'** performed well and produced some superb darts to earn a 6-6 draw; Brentwood's Steve Johnson (27.70) was man of the match winning the 2<sup>nd</sup> set 4-1, Canvey's Phil Halls (27.29) won 4-3 to take the 3<sup>rd</sup> set, but then Yorkshire took control and the next 5-sets. However, Essex weren't finished as they won the final 4-sets with 4-3 wins for John Costigan (24.09) and Daniel Day (26.70), Phil Brewster (26.85) winning 4-2 and finally Wayne Gleed (23.99) winning 4-1.

The result was Yorkshire 27 Essex 12 which kept Essex in 7<sup>th</sup> in the overall table with relegation threatened Cheshire visiting Chelmsford in the final fixture of the season at the end of April.