

The second Southend and District Badminton Association tournament of the season, the Masters Mixed Doubles handicap event, took place at Chalkwell badminton centre with a bumper entry of eleven pairs.

Group A consisted of six pairings with two games being played to 21 points. It was a tight affair with every pair taking games off each other but John Hall and Barbara Childs (-2) emerged on top after winning seven out of a possible ten. The fight for second was extremely close as three pairs finished on five with Roger and Sandra Bellows (+7) accumulating the most points of those on 189. However, their narrow 21-18 loss against Mike Weingarten and Andrea Lloyd (-11) meant they progressed as they won six games.

In the other group, consisting of five pairings, it was a little more clear cut as to who would finish top as Mark King and Mandie Breed (-10) won seven out of a possible eight. They were runners-up in this tournament last year and the pairing they lost to in the final, Tim Baskett and Tracey Carey (-4), were the only pair to take a game off them, 21-13. They only just edged through though with five wins, beating Chris Gates and Sue Mills (+5) to a place in the semi's after they won four.

The runners up from Group B, Tim and Tracey, met the winners of Group A, John and Barbara, in the first semi-final. Despite starting with a two point deficit, the reigning champions battled back to edge a tight affair 21-18 and book their place in the final. However, it wasn't to be a repeat of 2017 as Mark and Mandie lost by the same scoreline to Mike and Andrea.

Tim and Tracey would have gone in slight favourites due to the fact that their opponents started on -6. However, the handicapping proved to be spot on as it produced an incredibly close final and Mike and Andrea turned the tie around to win it 21-19 and claim the title of Mixed Masters handicap champions.