



# Risbygate Sports Club

## Against all odds, a successful year of tennis.

Bury St Edmunds: Competitive tennis was back at Risbygate Sports Club in 2021.

Even though the pandemic disrupted the competition schedules and team availability, Risbygate tennis teams competed at a high level.

Here's a review of our 2021 league successes.

### Winning the East of England league

Risbygate Tennis's **National Clubs League team won the East of England league.**

The team included Asa Sumner-Keens, Haadi Shah, Will Cooke- Wharton, Seth Newman and Sam Ratcliffe, who won every match but one to secure the title. Team captain, Asa, said,

*"Our team grew in confidence throughout the season, playing exceptional and competitive tennis throughout. Those that came out to support the team in the last two matches made a massive difference and contributed to the success of the team by creating a fantastic atmosphere."*

In 2022, the team will be competing at the national level as one of the top 32 teams in the country.

### In the Cambridge Leagues

For their first season in the Cambs Division 1, Risbygate Cambridge Men's first men's team finished a respectable 4th. Throughout the season the young team competed strongly, gaining valuable experience.

It was a competitive season for our Cambridge Women's first team in Cambs Division 2, who won 3, drew 1 and lost 3 matches, finishing 5th out of the 8 teams. The team of Gail Corcoran, Sarah Wells, Jo Harpur, Salome Smit, Fiona Barker, and Helen Bastow secured their place in division 2 next season.

Captain of the women's first team, Gail Corcoran said:

*"With continued support, effort and enthusiasm, our team played some good tennis throughout the summer and winter seasons. We look forward to building on this in 2022!"*

Risbygate Men's Cambs 2nd team had an incredibly successful season winning their division with a team that also won the Grays Cup 8-0 in the final.

Risbygate Men's Cambs 3<sup>rd</sup> team finished 4<sup>th</sup> in Division 10, having gained promotion last year. This team had given a wide range of players an opportunity and entry point to playing team tennis.

Risbygate Women's Cambridge 2 team finished second in the division and will be promoted to Cambs Division 3 league.

Team captain Fiona Barker said:

*"Our women's second team have had a ball this season and that is in no small part down to the amazing bunch of women it has been my absolute pleasure to play alongside. They have ranged in age from 11 years old to over 60's, but every one of them has been enthusiastic and supportive of each other and the whole squad."*

## **Norfolk and Suffolk Leagues**

In the Norfolk and Suffolk Women's league, the Risbygate Women's team finished third in Division 2. The mixed team won two, drew one and lost five, finishing fifth in the league.

Norfolk & Suffolk Men's A team finished top of Division 1 having won six, drawn one and lost one.

Norfolk & Suffolk Men's B finished 2nd in Men's Division 2, playing six matches winning three and losing three.