

Imberwood battle to earn a hard-fought draw

IMBERWOOD Badminton Club's West Weald Men's team endured a tough night when they took on Forest in their penultimate game of the season last Sunday.

The two sides played out a hard-fought draw earlier in the season and they did so again, with the spoils shared in a 3-3 draw.

However, the result came at a cost for Imberwood, with two players sustaining injuries in the clash.

The night started well for Imberwood though, with Lee Tandy and Chris Richens claiming a 21-12, 21-16 win.

Phil Richens partnered Ian Wilkins and they unfortunately lost 24-22, 21-12, with Wilkins straining a ligament in his hand during the second set.

In the reverse matches, Phil Richens and Wilkins tried a change of tactics, pushing Wilkins forward to try and cover

the net, while Richens played valiantly throughout.

However, this had limited success as the pair went down 21-16, 21-11, with Richens aggravating an old arm injury in the process.

The other pairing of Tandy and Chris Richens managed to square the match though, winning 21-19, 21-18 in a close match-up.

On the switch, Chris Richens was joined by Wilkins and their opponents exploited Wilkins'

injury, taking the match 21-15, 21-11.

The onus then fell to the Phil Richens and Tandy partnership to fight back for Imberwood, which they duly did, coming back from a set down to take the next two sets 21-12, 21-16 and earn their side a 3-3 draw.

Imberwood complete their season with a home match against local rivals Felbridge tomorrow (Friday).