

Archers hit their targets

CHELTENHAM Archers hosted the annual Junior Archery Championships on their racecourse ground, which saw 60 of the county's top juniors competing for honours.

The results were dominated by two of the 13 clubs in the county, with Deer Park Archers – based between Cheltenham and Cirencester – winning 13 and Cheltenham Archers winning four of the county titles.

Among the highlights were wins for top recurve archer Ashe Morgan of Cheltenham, a member of the national squad who continues to support his club and local events.

Compound archer James Howse, who broke a British record last week while shooting in the Inter-Counties Championships, won his category. There were also successes for a number of novice archers who have started in the sport during the last 12 months through beginners programmes started in county schools.

Rosie Andrews recorded an outstanding score, which was a new county record, in the Junior Ladies Barebow category.

Andrews made her debut last week for the county team, having been recruited from the Cirencester Kingshill after-school club.

Lucy Mason, 10, from Deer Park Archers won her Compound category and then took the Cotswold Head to Head title when competing against the top compound archers from all the other age groups.

The Recurve H2H Cotswold title was taken by Ashe Morgan with Rosie Andrews in second and Rosie Benfield in third.

The top club award went to Deer Park Archers with a team including Beckie Hutchings – who also recorded the top score of the day – Tom Howse and Rosie Benfield.

Earlier this year 106 archers from local schools competed for honours with Bourton-on-the-Water [Primary School](#) winning the overall title.

Gloucestershire has been granted Lead Status for the National Initiative to introduce Archery into schools and is supported by Active Gloucestershire, the local Community Sports Partnership and [Sport England](#).

There are numerous [Sport Unlimited](#) funded programmes running in local schools and many of the local clubs are running beginners courses.

Contact details can be obtained through the Gloucestershire Archery Society website www.glosarchery.co.uk or through the club websites.