

2018 Butterfly Canadian Senior Championships
July 6, 2018
Day 1



Table Tennis Championships

Ontario and British Columbia Crowned Team Champions

Day 1 of the Senior Championships commenced with the team events.

For the women's team category, Team British Columbia, consisting of Ivy Liao (BC), Benita Zhou (BC), Patrina Hui (BC) and Isabelle Xiong (BC) were able to snag the gold medal.

Liao, who played the closing match against Ontario's Joyce Xu (ON), won by a slim margin on the fourth set in a lengthy deuce. Cheered on by BC supporters, Liao managed to overcome her adversary despite having previously lost to Xu during the Junior Girls Team event just a couple days ago.

"To be able to overcome [the loss] makes me really happy; and to do that for the team makes me even happier. I felt like three days, it wasn't that I had played poorly. I thought [Xu] played a really strong game. Mentally, coming into this game, I was prepared and I was actually excited."

On the other side with the men's category, Team Ontario, consisting of Jeremy Hazin (ON), Alexander Bu (ON), Terence Yeung (ON), and Mohammed Faris Qatan (ON), came out on top against first seeded opponents Team Quebec.

Bu, who managed to overcome Marco Medjugorac (QC) against all odds in the critical third match, says of his major upset, "Going into the match, I was thinking don't be nervous, just try your best. Take your time. I had my teammates and my coach and I just followed their advice."

The boys maintain a close bond not just as a team on the court but as friends off court as well. Yeung expressed thoughts on the matter: "We've [all] been to many tournaments together and talk all the time. I think that helped with team spirit because we want each other to win. We just did our best and [communicated] with each other."

Hazin, who played the closing and winning match that secured their title, says that they had to rely on themselves the entire way. The key to their success? "Team spirit," Hazin asserts, and his teammates agree.

With the team events having concluded, the focus now shifts to the RR rated events and doubles event due to start on Day 2.