**The 2015 Hertfordshire Senior Mixed Open Championships** were held over the past weekend at the Hertfordshire Sports Village Hatfield.

HFC had two of its fencers enter Dan Summerfield and Jacques Portal.

After the first round of pools, Jacque was ranked No 12th but Dan undefeated was ranked 3rd and got a bye for the first round of DE`s.

Jacque made his way through the first two rounds of pools with no problem but them drew Florent Boyer of Watford who proved to be a very difficult opponent with a very long reach and lunge.

Jacque fought very hard but went down 15/11 giving him an eventual position of 8th. **Well done Jacque**.

As already stated Dan got a bye for the first round but then ran into some very tough opposition. In the last 16 he came up against Henry Parkinson of PDFA, young tall and fast.

This proved to be a great fight, very evenly matched moving through the score hit for hit. At 14 all, Dan made a great attack taking victory 15/14.

Dan`s next bout was the quarter final against an even harder opponent. Again young, tall, fast but a left hander. This proved to be a very exciting bout with both fencers using all of the 14 metre piste. Back and forth with some good fencing and even better use of distance and timing. At one point Owen had crept ahead by a couple of points but Dan turned on his reserves and pulled the score back & went into the lead and then pushed for the final hits winning 15/13.

Dan`s semi final was against Joe Wright of Watford but Dan eased his way past Joe 15/7.

Dan is now in the final against Florent Boyer of Watford who had previously knocked out Jacques.

Florent is a good and awkward fencer with a very long reach.

Dan used the piste and distance well, trying not to let Florent use his long reach. Therefore making sure Florent`s attacks  were just a little short and just a bit easier to parry and picking up hits with his riposte. Dan also used his speed to hit with some excellent long attacks eventually taking the gold medal 15/10.

**WELL DONE DAN, AN EXCELLENT DAY OF FOIL FENCING.**

Mike Ellis