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Tigers sweep H-DN doubles championship

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The conclusion may have been easy to predict but getting their was anything but simple.

Facing one of the toughest opponents they have seen throughout the season, Arcata High School's No. 2 doubles tennis team were in dire straights against Fortuna on Friday during the Humboldt-Del Norte doubles tennis championship.

"Their (Fortuna) No. 2 double steam always gave us the toughest time," Tigers' head coach Jason Maki said. "I knew going into it, it was going to be a dogfight."

Down 4-5 in the first set, Charlie Hankin and Edward Hunter were the only Tigers left on the court.

The No. 1 team, Alex Kusmak and Ben Miller and the No. 3 pair, Erik Martini and Bredan Winnacott, had already won.

It was up to Hankin and Hunter to win and complete the sweep.

But despite Matt Deems and Garrett Farnsworth efforts, the Tigers would go unblemished and claim the title.

With Kusmak and Miller's victory, they are now scheduled to travel with teammate Casey Mansfield, who won the HD-N singles tourney last week, to Union City for the North Coast Section tournament.

Something the team is looking forward too.

"My No. 1 singles and doubles teams can beat at least five of the kids down there," Maki said. "But it's all about getting a favorable draw."

It's something the Tigers haven't been able to do in the last couple of years.