

By James Reid at Queen's

CAMERON Norrie and Ryan Peniston powered their way into the second round of the LTA's cinch Championships at the Queen's Club with a pair of dominant performances on the opening day. British No.1 Norrie got past Miomir Kecmanovic 6-4 7-6 (5) in the second match of the day after wildcard Peniston had earlier lit up centre court with a stunning 6-4 6-2 victory over French No.1 Ugo Humbert.

Peniston enjoyed a fairytale run to the quarter-finals of the tournament last summer and the 27-year-old is hopeful of having a similarly sparkling run this year after bouncing back from injury.

The Southend player, who also reached the quarter-finals at Eastbourne and the second round of Wimbledon last year, said: "It has been quite a difficult year.

"After the last grass season I had quite a bad injury to my wrist which was tough to take but I learnt a lot and I was really excited to come back here and play and I am really happy with the result.

"Coming out on court you are always nervous but I felt less nervous than I was last year which is a nice thing.

"I feel like I was able to enjoy it a bit more as I knew what to expect and could have some fun at the same time."

However, it was defeat for British No.2 Dan Evans, who lost 6-4 7-5 to American Sebastian Korda, while wildcard Jan Choinski also exited after a 6-4 6-2 defeat to sixth seed Lorenzo Musetti.

Evans comfortably lost the first set before fighting back in the second, only to suffer a break of serve with the score tied at 5-5, and the world No.25 vowed to bounce back stronger ahead of Wimbledon.

He said: "I am trying to get in front in matches and it is not happening for me, but you are always very close in this game to turning it.

"Right now it is not good tennis but if you stick with it hopefully it will change, there aren't any other answers to it."