

Week Commencing 23rd May 2005

Leamington Veterans B team have won Division 5 of the Midland League. The squad of Rob and Mick Bennett, Gary Edwards and Duncan Hall have had an excellent series of matches to finish with 10 points. This equalled Nuneaton D's tally, but as Spa had beaten Nuneaton 6-4, we end up in pole position taking the trophy and promotion to division 4 for next season. Leamington had also beaten Hinckley B 10-0, drawn 5-5 with Loughborough, and lost to Birmingham D 6-4. In addition Rob Bennett won the individual averages prize, winning 11 out of his 12 matches. Rob and Mick Bennett and Duncan Hall all gained Town badges for representing Leamington this season, receiving them at Presentation Evening last week. The Junior team did nearly as well in the Midland League, finishing in second place in the junior division. They won 3 of their matches to finish with 10 points, 3 points behind unbeaten Kidderminster. Leamington beat Oxford, Gloucester and Coventry A all 7-3, but had been edged out 6-4 by Kidderminster. The squad consisted of Sam Clarke, Edward Freeman, Michael Rowan and Stephanie Hawkins. Sam Clarke played on all 4 occasions, winning all 12 of his matches to put him on 100% and give him the individual averages title. Sam also picked up his Town badge for representing Leamington. Leamington's Veteran A team of Phil Paine, Earl Sweeney, Pat McCabe, Mike Bishop and Malcolm Macfarlane were unlucky to only finish third in Veterans Division 1 with 9 points. They beat Nuneaton A 6-4 in a tough match and beat Kettering 9-1, (though Kettering later withdrew), lost 6-4 to defending champions Nottingham (who have retained their title), saw off Shrewsbury A 7-3 and drew 5-5 with Kidderminster. Finally the squad were unlucky to go down 9-1 to second placed Coventry, partly because Spa were one short on the night through a misunderstanding. For the Men, this year's Midland league has been a hard battle but the team of Phil Paine, Mark Woolerton, Jon Williams, Mark Jackson, Earl Sweeney, and Richard Arnold did well to finish fourth out of seven, with 2 wins and 2 draws. They defeated Leicester 7-3 and Stafford 10-0, drew 5-5 with eventual winners Nuneaton and also 5-5 against Gloucester. Both their losses were only at 6-4, against Oxford and against Loughborough, allowing those two teams to edge into second and third place ahead of Spa.

In the Veteran British League the team representing Lillington Free Church had been lying in second place in Division 3 at the halfway point. This was tremendous as the team had only been promoted from division 4 for this season. However after one disastrous match at the second weekend in Doncaster, the team slipped in position to finish an excellent third. The squad was composed of Ron Vose, Phil Paine, Pat McCabe, Earl Sweeney and Lyndon Douglas (from Birmingham). The opposing teams were Merrow (Guildford), who came first, Reading, who beat Spa 4-2 to take the second spot, Yorkshire Xystx, Jim's Gym (Dudley) and Racketsports (Nottingham).