

## **Week Commencing 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2005**

The new season for the Leamington and District Table Tennis League started last week, returning to the normal format for the three-aside teams of playing each other twice over the full season. There are three full divisions, each with 12 teams, formed in this way. There are also three two-aside divisions but as preferred by them, they will play a half-season before promotion and relegation at Christmas. Divisions A and C have 11 teams and will play each other once before Christmas whilst Division B has only 6 teams and so will play twice in the same period.

In Division 1 Colebridge A drew 5-5 against Whitnash A with Barry Hunt and John Chandler taking braces for Colebridge and Bob Brown one. Whitnash's Alan Hewitt won his three and the doubles with Jane Dickens, who chipped in with a single. St. Georges B walked over Flavels 10-0 with braces from Jimmy Pittaway, Alf Chapman and Rob Warnes with Pittaway and Warnes taking the doubles. Flavels also gave away three points as they were one short. County Council B saw off BGN 7-3 with Doug Lowe taking a hat-trick, Simon Griew two, Nilton Green one and the doubles together. Gary Jackson kept two for BGN, Paul Rowan one.

In Division 2, Eathorpe A were matched 5-5 by St. Georges C with good performances from both teams. Allan Stockham's treble was the highlight for Eathorpe and Matthew Cooper and Chris Atkins added one each. Brian Aston and Bert Banks held onto two each and the doubles for Saints. Whitnash 'B' beat Riverhouse Henley 'A' 8-2 with an excellent debut of a treble for newcomer John Bunn, and two each and the doubles from Paul Ryman and Dennis Woodhead. Mark Dudley held onto two for Riverhouse. R.N.A. 'A' had a cracking 9-1 start against County Council 'C' with Tony Thomas and Ian Stevens picking up three each, Kim Wong two and the doubles going to Tony and Kim. Doug Lowe held onto one for Council.

AP B in Division 3 had an easy start with a 10-0 over Eathorpe C, with only one match going to 4 sets, against a new young three-aside team in their first match at this level. Tony Williams, Stephanie Hawkins and Charlotte Freeman took the singles for AP, Williams and Hawkins the doubles. New team Rugby Lawford also had a relatively easy 10-0 for their league debut over two-man Free Church 'D'. Richard Grant, Tom Bradley and Don Pritchard all took braces for Rugby Lawford, Grant and Pritchard the doubles, plus the three forfeited games. Another 10-0 saw R.N.A. 'D' taking out Standard Photo, with Albert McKay, Steve Kurle and Jim Thomas taking their hat-tricks, and McKay and Kurle the doubles.

Eathorpe 'E' start well in Division A of the two-aside league with a 5-0 against St. Georges 'F'. Eathorpe's more experienced pairing of Peter Nicholson and Charles Wragg took the match comfortably. New club Jordan F1 (formerly known as Free Church Z), began their campaign with a clear win over Free Church 'G' 5-0 by David and Mike Jordan. Riverhouse Henley 'B' picked up a 4-1 result over Eathorpe 'D' with two from Steven Shaw, one from Joe Shaw and the doubles together. Eric Smith held onto one for Eathorpe's reply.

In Division B Eathorpe G's new pairing of Chris Long and Tom Jamie produced a convincing 5-0 win taking singles and doubles, although 4 of the 5 matches went to four sets against their spirited opponents, LCP Inkers. LCP Groovers also went down 5-0 to an Eathorpe side, the experienced father/daughter duo of the F team, where Dave and Katie Hawker took all the honours.

For Division C, a closer start to the season for Eathorpe 'H' who finished 3-2 in front against Free Church 'N'. William Henry took his two singles for Eathorpe and crucially Adam Kennedy one for the match. Free Church mother and son, Lindy and Roald Myers, did well to edge the doubles and Lindy took the remaining single with a plucky display winning 13-11 in the fourth.