

Week Commencing 8th January 2007

The Autumn competition has now been completed in the two-a-side divisions, with AP Sports B holding off a strong challenge from FISSC B to claim the Division A title. Both teams had two matches left to play, one of which was against each other. FISSC's first match was against St Georges D and was an evenly fought contest. George Mudie starred for FISSC as he won his two, which included taking the much coveted scalp of previously unbeaten Paul Nason. Paul rallied to take one, as did young counterpart Lawrence Sweeney, but they could not get past George and Mark Kingham in the doubles and FISSC took the match 3-2. AP Sports, front runners for some time, left nothing to chance against LCP Dreamers – Carol Meredith and Tony Williams powering towards the title with a 5-0 win. The two points that FISSC dropped against St Georges proved to be vital as, despite George Mudie and David Milton beating AP 5-0, they finished two points adrift in second place. St Georges D's push for second place petered out as they felt the festive-cheer-induced absence of the arcane Nason and collapsed to a 4-1 defeat at the hands of Eathorpe D's father and son duo Peter and Alastair Nicholson. Peter picked up one, Alastair his two and the doubles together. Lawrence Sweeney held one for Saints in reply. The Saint's final match produced a business like 4-1 win over LCP Dreamers. Nason and Sweeney both won maximums, but lost out in a five set doubles to Simon Dainty and Simon Walmesley.

Division A Table

Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Points
AP Sports B	11	9	0	2	43
FISSC 'B'	11	9	0	2	41
St. Georges 'D'	11	8	0	3	38
Eathorpe 'E'	11	6	0	5	29
St. Georges 'E'	11	6	1	4	26
Eathorpe 'D'	11	4	0	7	26
Free Church 'H'	11	7	0	4	25
Free Church 'G'	11	4	0	7	24
Rugby 'E'	11	4	0	7	23
Free Church 'I'	11	4	0	7	20
LCP Dreamers	11	3	1	7	19
Eathorpe 'F'	11	1	0	10	11

St Georges E v LCP match awarded unplayed 0-0 draw

Division B's bottom two sides faced one another – Eathorpe H squeezing past Free Church J 3-2. Hannah Saville and Liz Hancock took a singles each and the doubles, with Church's Tom Smith winning a brace in reply.

Division B Table

Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Points
Rugby 'F'	10	9	1	0	39
Eathorpe 'G'	10	8	0	2	38
Free Church 'K'	10	4	0	6	20
LCP Packers	10	3	0	7	17
Eathorpe 'H'	10	3	1	6	15
Free Church 'J'	10	1	2	7	11

Rugby F v FC J match unplayed awarded 0-0 draw
Eathorpe H v FC J match unplayed awarded 0-0 draw

Eathorpe I and J may have both been out of the race for top spot in Division C, but were still locked in a battle for second place. Eathorpe J led the way in to the final fixtures and, with two wins out of two, put paid to any hopes their I side had of catching them. William Henry and Robert Young eased to a 5-0 victory over the plucky girls of Free Church N and then won a tighter match against LCP Groovers 3-2. William and Robert took one a piece, to which Dave Overton and Philippa Dalley responded in kind. The deciding doubles was taken by the Eathorpe duo. Eathorpe I did all they could in their final match as they beat Rugby G 5-0, though with three four-set matches and five deuce sets it was harder than the result may suggest. Adam Kennedy and Pauline Parks played extremely well to take their singles and doubles.

Division C Table

Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Points
Free Church 'M'	11	10	1	0	49
Eathorpe J	11	9	1	1	40
Eathorpe I	11	7	1	3	36
Eathorpe K	11	7	1	3	29
Rugby 'H'	11	5	3	3	22
Free Church 'O'	11	3	1	8	20
LCP Groovers	11	2	2	7	19
Rugby 'G'	11	4	2	5	18
Free Church 'L'	11	3	4	4	16
Free Church 'N'	11	3	4	4	9
Free Church 'Q'	11	0	1	10	7
Free Church 'P'	11	1	4	6	4

Eathorpe K v Free Church P match conceded by FC P 5-0 expected score awarded to Eathorpe K

Rugby H v Free Church O match conceded by FC O 3-0 expected score awarded to Rugby H

Rugby H v Free Church Q match unplayed awarded 0-0 draw

FC Q v LCP Groovers, LCP did not turn up, expected score awarded 1-0 to FC Q

All other matches - no notification all matches unplayed awarded 0-0 draw

Free Church A had two handy 7-3 wins in Division 1, first against Colebridge A where Alan Jones was on song and took a hat-trick. Xiaoyang Ma joined Alan for the doubles and picked up a brace from his singles; Hugh Matthews completed the haul with one. Neil Wheatley came through two tough five setters to pick up a brace for Colebridge; Michael Rinhoffer one. Free Church A's second win came at the expense of BGN A. Gary Webb was the maximum man for Church on this occasion, supported by two and the doubles from Hugh Matthews and one from Alan Jones. Bob Harman kept two for BGN; Gary Jackson an excellent one. BGN picked up an extra point against Colebridge A, only just going down 4-6. Michael Rinhoffer, Neil Wheatley and Navinder Matharu all picked up braces for 'Bridge. Bob Harman won another brace, Jason Adams a single and the double together for BGN. Wellesbourne battled out a 5-5 draw with Free Church A – Gary Stewart and Pete Dunnett both winning two and Michael Wilkins one. Gary Webb was undefeated for Church, with Xiaoyang Ma adding a single plus the doubles with Gary to achieve parity.

Division 2 continues to be an extremely close competition and Rugby A managed to pull back a couple of points on leaders Free Church B by inflicting their first defeat of the campaign upon them 6-4. Ian Randle eased through the gears to take his three and was ably supported by Len Coonan's brace. The duo then came back from 2-0 down in the doubles to take the deciding set 15-13. Free Church responses came from Tom Brocklehurst's two and Chris Mulligan and James Hodges singles. With the top four sides all averaging over six points a game, the second half of the season promises to make exciting viewing. Whitnash and RNA B could not be separated as their match finished with honours even. Paul Ryman walked off with a tidy hat-trick, Dennis Woodhead picked up one and the pair combined to take the doubles. RNA B's tally was attained by two each from Ian Stevens and Richard Smith and one from Steve Poole.

Rugby C move to within a point of recently new Division 3 leaders Free Church E and did so thanks to an 8-2 roasting of Ashorne. Dave Cox and Don Pritchard both took three and cadet Matthew Outhwaite fought hard to take his five-set single and the doubles with Don. Stalwarts Steve Bolton and Roger Kelley both saved one for Ashorne. Eathorpe B lie only five points off the leaders, so another division is poised to go right to the wire. Rugby's D side tried hard to get the win against WCC D, but despite two each from Tristan Mobbs and Alex Phillips and one from Peter Gierth could only manage a draw. That was chiefly down to County Council's inspirational Tony Ford who notched another hat-trick and took the doubles with Pat Woolvin. Andy Woodfield's five set single proved crucial as the points were split.

Lillington Free Church hold their first Tournament of 2007 on Saturday 13 January at Sydenham Sports Centre, Campion School. Entries through Hugh Matthews on 01926 314539.