

Week Commencing 5th May 2008

With April coming to a close, the usual flurry of previously postponed matches has taken place and the final league tables are now completed.

Perhaps the closest finish in the three-a-side competition was in Division 4, with the top two sides both racking up some big wins in the last few weeks of the season. St Georges E were up against two-man Snitterfield A, but the trio of Laurence Sweeney, Matt Corcoran and Paul Nason still had to overcome some tough opponents to run out 9-1 winners. Laurence and Matt both won twice and took the doubles, with Paul winning once. Stuart Ayers picked up the consolation for Snitterfield. Saints E had to face Snitterfield again, this time with Snitterfield back to their full compliment. Dave Starkie won twice for Snitterfield, Stuart Ayers and Vince Ford one each, while Dave and Stuart also took the doubles.

Laurence Sweeney and Matt Corcoran again won two, with a crucial single under pressure from the nerveless Paul Nason ensuring a 5-5 draw. Meanwhile, title rivals Free Church F were doing their best to make up points as they faced colleagues Free Church E twice in close succession. On both occasions, the F side ran out 8-2 winners. Phil Blowey, Jake Harrison and Charlotte Spencer collected the sixteen points between them, with Free Church E's only responses coming from Pete Rourke who picked up two each time. These results left Saints and Free Church level on points, with only each other to play. It was to be a disappointing evening for Church F though, as Matt Corcoran and Laurence Sweeney raised their games to post hat-tricks, which was added to by a Paul Nason brace and complete a comfortable 8-2 win to storm to the title. Church's response came through a Charlotte Spencer single and a Charlotte/Phil Blowey doubles. Snitterfield A had an 8-2 win over Eathorpe C thanks to maximums from Stuart Ayers and Dave Starkie, plus a brace from Vince Ford. Ron Coats held one for 'Thorpe, plus the doubles with Charlie Wragg. Free Church G and Ashorne battled out a 5-5 draw. Barry Hobbins starred for Church, taking his three, and was supported by one from each of Richard Pittaway and Luke Spencer. Steve Bolton won two for Ashorne; Chris Bowles and Roger Kelley one each and the doubles.

With all results completed, St Georges E finish in first place with 161 points, from Free Church F in second on 153. The individual averages were taken by Doug Lowe (WCC D) with 89% (41/46), with Laurence Sweeney (St Georges E) finishing second on 82% (47/57) and Matt Corcoran (St Georges E) third on 80% (46/57).

Nomads B completed their title winning Division 3 season with a 6-4 win against Rugby D. Dick Smith and Ian Stevens both won twice for Nomads, Dave Harding added one and Dick and Steve Poole took the doubles to ensure they finished the season with a win. The Rugby points came from Ben Meakin, who took a very creditable two, and Tristan Mobbs and Daniel Roberts who won one each. Rugby E beat St Georges D 6-4 with Jesse Kendrick-Hill winning a hat-trick. Ryan Lines added two and Jack Koumi a match-winning one. Martin Bennett won twice for Saints, Tony Bennett once, and the pair took the doubles.

Nomads B took the title at a canter with 121 points. Their closest rivals were Rugby B who trailed in second on 108. With a player needing to play in 65% of their sides matches to qualify, the individual averages were won by Martin Bennett (St Georges D) on 87% (42/48), from Jim Owen (WCC C) on 80% (29/36) and Tristan Mobbs (Rugby D) on 66% (32/48).

AP Sports A were the only side who could have mathematically caught the Division 2 leaders, but they fell at the first hurdle as they crashed to a 10-0 defeat against an inspired Flavels B side. Trevor Bradley,

Mick Bennett and Roger Potts completed the whitewash. AP also slipped to a 4-6 defeat against Rugby C. Matthew Outhwaite won an excellent maximum for Rugby and took the doubles with Dave Daniels who also won two. Andrew Meredith won two for AP, Samantha Meredith and Edward Freeman one each. A busy time for AP as Andrew, Samantha and Edward demolished Eathorpe A 9-1 and took the spoils against Copsewood 6- 4. Andy and Sam won maximums against Eathorpe, Ed a brace, and Alastair Nicholson took a hard fought single for Eathorpe. Against Copsewood, Samantha shone with a hat-trick, which paved the way for Andy and Ed to seal the win with two and one respectively. Roy Joiner took two for Copsewood, Gordon Tucker one and the pair took the doubles. Rugby B beat Eathorpe A 7-3 thanks to three plus the doubles from both Alan Chan and Thomas Jacko. Chris Atkins making his first but welcome appearance of the season took one, as did William Hancock and Lincoln Liburd. Rugby C beat Nomads A 8-2 as Dave Daniels and Matthew Outhwaite won three each and Don Pritchard two. Tony Thomas won a single for Nomads and took the doubles with Andy Davies. Whitnash A celebrated their title with an 8-2 win over Free Church C. Andrew Davies won three, Steve Proctor and Raj Balasundaram one each. Andrew and Raj also added the doubles, while the Free Church points both came from Cherry Matthews. Church C drew with Flavels B. Church's five were scored by Les Hoggins and Cherry Matthews who took two each, and a Les/John Taylor doubles. Flavels points came through Mick Bennett, Simon Geddes and Roger Potts who won two, two and one respectively. Paul Ryman, Dennis Woodhead and Mark Woolerton finished their season in style, propelling Whitnash B to a 10-0 win over Flavels B.

Whitnash A topped the table with 166 points, holding off a second half surge from Whitnash B who finished on 157. Mark Woolerton (Whitnash B) picks up the individual averages with 94% (47/50), from Tristan Gretton (Free Church D) on 91% (41/45) and Paul Ryman (Whitnash B) on 75% (49/65).

In Division 1, WCC A defeated two-man St Georges A 7-3. Pat McCabe won two for Council, Phil Paine and Clive Irwin one each. Mike Bishop and Earl Sweeney won once each and took the doubles in reply. WCC A were hoping to finish above WCC B but needed two more points to do so as they could only win the match between them 6-4. Chris Brewer won his three for the As, with Phil Paine adding two and taking the doubles with Chris. Simon Griew won two for B and Martin Hunter and Nilton Green one each. WCC A were only able to field two and lost to Wellesbourne 4-6. Clive Irwin and Phil Paine both won braces for Council. Pete Dunnett and Gary Stewart won one each plus the doubles for Wellesbourne. WCC did register a 7-3 win against two man Flavels A though. Pat McCabe won two, Phil Paine one, with the doubles going to Paine and Chris Brewer. Mark Jackson won two for Flavels; Damon Fenton one. Wellesbourne and two-man BGN drew 5-5 with BGN's Jason Adams putting in a hat-trick winning performance. Gary Jackson won two more for BGN to secure their draw, while Pete Dunnett won one for Wellesbourne and took the doubles with Gary Stewart. Another draw for BGN, this time against two-man Free Church A. Jason Adams won his two to gain the draw, with Hugh Matthews and Gary Webb taking two plus the doubles for Church. WCC B beat BGN 6-4 thanks to the lightning quick Simon Griew's maximum. Martin Hunter added two, then took the doubles with Simon for the win. Jay Allen won two for BGN, Gary Jackson and Jason Adams one each. Runaway champions, Colebridge A, beat Flavels A 6-4 thanks to two from each of Nav Matharu, Edward Lynn and Sasha Grokhotov. Mark Jackson won his three plus the doubles with the enigmatic Damon Fenton in reply. Free Church A hammered Free Church B 8-2 thanks to three from Matt Carter and two each plus the doubles from Gary Webb and Gary Deakin. Both Church B's points were scored by Chris Mulligan who took an outstanding brace. Colebridge A beat two-man St Georges A 9-1. Two from each of Ian Ferguson and Edward Lynn and one from Sasha Grokhotov was offset only by Mike Bishop's single. Saints A faced two man Colebridge B and went through them with the loss of only one game. Earl

Sweeney and Mike Bishop won twice each, with reserve Laurence Sweeney taking another excellent top flight win. John Chandler saved the whitewash for Bridge. BGN beat Rugby A 7-3 thanks to three, two, one from Jason Adams, John Camilleri and Jay Allen, plus the doubles from Jason and John. Ian Randle held two for Rugby, Thomas Jacko one.

Birmingham Boys Colebridge A romped to the title with a massive 190 points, from second placed Flavels A who finished way back on 141. Ian Ferguson (Colebridge A) takes the averages with an outstanding 100% record (56/56), with Mark Jackson coming in second on 88% (56/63) and Edward Lynn (Colebridge A) third on 82% (53/64).

Eathorpe D beat Eathorpe E 5-0 in Division A, thanks to excellent performances from Peter Nicholson and Lincoln Liburd. There was better news for the E side though, as they romped to a 5-0 success of their own against Rugby F courtesy of Holly Savage and Allan Stockham. Allan took another two and the doubles with Holly to steer the E side to a narrow 3-2 win over Rugby G, for who Mark Wilson and Pete Moffatt both notched. Another 3-2 win for Eathorpe E against St Georges F. Gary Edwards won his two for Saints, but as he was the only player present for Saints, the remaining three points were conceded. AP Sports B had a fairly comfortable 4-1 win over Eathorpe F. Tony Williams and Guy Ferguson won two and one, plus the doubles, while Richard Freeman picked up a good consolation for ‘Thorpe. AP were on the other end of a 4-1 result as Gary Edwards and Alf Chapman won two and one respectively, plus the doubles, for St Georges F. AP’s consolation came from an outstanding win by Tony Williams. Tony’s good form continued as he won a brace against FISSC B and the doubles with Guy Ferguson to take the match 3-2. John Hunt and George Mudie both held one in reply. Keith Knott and Jack Hobbins propelled Free Church H to a 5-0 win over Eathorpe F. George Mudie and Brian Marston won one each and the doubles in FISSC B’s 3-2 win over Rugby G, for who Peter Moffatt won twice. Brian was joined by Mark Kingham as FISSC whitewashed Rugby F 5-0. Rugby F enjoyed better fortune against Rugby G, running out 3-2 winners thanks to Grace Newman and Marion Dixon who won one each and the doubles. Peter Moffatt registered another two for the Gs. Marion welcomed Jo Outhwaite into the F side and the two ladies promptly sent Free Church I home with a 5-0 defeat. The top two sides in the division did battle, with champions St Georges F beating runners up WCC E 4-1. Alf Chapman won his two for Saints, Gary Edwards one and the doubles with Alf. Derek Harwood consoled for Council.

St Georges F were crowned champions with 42 points from their 11 games, three points ahead of WCC E and FISSC B who both finished with 39 points and must play off for second place. Derek Harwood takes the averages with 93% (15/16), from Tony Williams (AP Sports B) on 85% (17/20) and Keith Knott (Free Church H) on 80% (16/20).

In Division B, Gary and Joshua Osbourne put in an accomplished display for Eathorpe I to dispose of Eathorpe H 4-1. Gary won his two, Joshua one, and the pair took the doubles. Katie Hawker collected the consolation for H. Joshua improved his performance against Eathorpe K, to leave the I side with an excellent 5-0 win. Eathorpe I also faced Free Church K and a brace from Gary, plus the doubles with Joshua gave them a 3-2 win. Jack Hobbins and Anita Whitehouse both picked up singles for Church. Anita and Jack then went on to whitewash colleagues Free Church N 5-0. Church N also suffered a 5-0 reverse to Scott Delday and Barry Hobbins of Free Church J, but did manage a 4-1 win against Snitterfield B thanks to two from Mark Barge, one from Lewis Barge and the doubles. Paula Clayton picked up Snitterfield’s point.

Rugby H proved to be the outstanding side in the division, taking the title with 9 wins from 9 and taking

42 of a possible 45 points. Free Church J came in second on 33 points, just one ahead of Eathorpe I on 32. Barry Hobbins (Free Church J) finished on 100% (12/12) to take the averages, ahead of Daniel Roberts (Rugby H) and Gary Osbourne (Eathorpe I) who both ended with 94% (17/18).

In Division C, Rugby I needed four points from their last match to overhaul LCP Packers and take the title. They got those four when Nic O'Connor and Billy Kyle won two, one and the doubles to beat Free Church Q 4-1. Simon Thompson won a tight five-set tussle to earn Church's consolation. Church Q beat Church O 3-2 with one each from Simon Thompson and David Marguerie, plus the doubles from the talented young duo. Matthew Bain's experience proved too much though and he took his two for the Os. Rugby J beat Free Church O 4-1 through Harry Holloway and Cameron Matthews who won two, one and the doubles. Matthew Flood emerged victorious from a entertaining five-setter to take Church O's solitary point. Potters Green ended their season with two 4-1 matches. Frazer McGuinness took two, Aaron Riley one and the doubles to defeat Free Church Q, for who Jeremy Knott replied. Against Rugby I, Jack Pegler picked up a point for Potters, but Billy Kyle and Nic O'Connor won two, one and the doubles to take the match. Jordan Cullaine-Liburd took a maximum as Eathorpe L won 4-1 against Free Church T. Steven Ayers added one plus the doubles, while Lucy Marlow consoled for Church.

Rugby I just pipped LCP Packers to the title. Rugby finished on 42 points, with LCP agonizingly close on 41. Doug Smith (LCP Packers) was top of the averages on 88% (16/18), with Nic O'Connor second on 85% (17/20) and Jordan Cullaine-Liburd third on 81% (13/16).