

Week Commencing 11th February 2008

St Georges E and Free Church F are looking set to battle it out for top spot in Division 4 and both sides kept the pressure on with big victories. The Saints trio of Paul Nason, Matthew Corcoran and Laurence Sweeney whitewashed Eathorpe C 10-0, while the Free Church side of Phil Blowey, Jake Harrison and Charlotte Spencer hammered Ashorne 9-1. Steve Bolton and Roger Kelley took the doubles for Ashorne to avoid the maximum defeat. Eathorpe C drew 5-5 with Free Church E as Paul Deavall and Charles Wragg both won braces. Ian Rourke won two for Church, Pete Rourke and Adam Cooper one each. Michael Rossington then gave Eathorpe the chance to take the win, but Pete and Adam responded to the challenge to take the doubles and get the draw. Doug Lowe coasted to a hat-trick for WCC D, which helped them to a 6-4 win over Ashorne. Tony Ford added a brace, plus the doubles with Doug to complete the victory. Steve Bolton held two for Ashorne; Roger Kelley and Chris Bowles one each. FISSC A won their Division 3 encounter with St Georges D 6-4 thanks to two from each of Gareth Conway, George Mudie and Brian Marston. Martin Bennett was in inspired form for Saints though and took a hat-trick, plus the doubles with brother Tony. Rugby D won 6-4 against Nomads C with Ben Meakin taking a hat-trick, plus the doubles with Tristan Mobbs who won two himself. Robin Fox-Strangways won twice for Nomads; Steve Kurle and Christian McMurran.

Both Whitnash sides were winners in Division 2. First the A side beat St Georges C 7-3, led by Andrew Davies who took an immaculate three. Deepak Chandrababu added a couple, plus the doubles with Andrew, while Malc Macfarlane added a single. Alf Chapman won two of the St Georges' points and Andy Caine one. The B side beat Rugby C 9-1 thanks to hat-tricks and doubles from Paul Ryman and Mark Woolerton, and two from Dennis Woodhead. Dave Daniels consoled for Rugby.

Colebridge A coasted past Wellesbourne 9-1 with maximums plus doubles from Sasha Grokhotov and Ian Ferguson and two from Ed Lynn. Pete Dunnett won a tough five-setter for Wellesbourne's point. St Georges A beat Rugby A 8-2, led by Matt Squires' hat-trick. Mike Bishop and Earl Sweeney added two each, plus the doubles together, while Rugby's points were both scored by Ian Randle. St Georges B and Colebridge B battled to a 5-5 draw. Ron Vose won two for Saints, Jimmy Pittaway and Rob Warnes one each, with the doubles being taken by Ron and Jimmy. Muhammad Khalid and John Taylor both won two for Colebridge, John Chandler one.

WCC E were too strong for Division A opponents Free Church I and Derek Harwood and Sue Clarke dished out a 5-0 mauling. FISSC B dealt out a 4-1 beating to Eathorpe D with Brian Marston taking two plus the doubles with George Mudie, who also won one. Lincoln Liburd won a fine single to console Eathorpe. Tracey Fletcher won two and Gary Edwards one as St Georges F beat Free Church H 4-1. The pair took the doubles too, but Keith Knott registered an excellent win to save the blushes. Rugby F were also 4-1 winners, led by a brace from Johanna Outhwaite. Baga Singh added a single, plus the doubles with Johanna. Ryan Oldham took the lone 'Thorpe point.

In Division B, Free Church K licked Eathorpe H 5-0 thanks to Anita Whitehouse and Jack Hobbins. Free Church L had to battle harder to beat Eathorpe K 3-2, with Sam Smith's brace plus the doubles with brother Tom proving vital. Richard and Jonathan Milton both won one each for Eathorpe. Richard Bennett hit a maximum for Snitterfield B, Kevin Bennett one and the pair added the doubles as they won 4-1 against Free Church P. James Payne picked up the Church point. Free Church J beat Free Church M 4-1 – Scott Delday cruising to a brace and taking the doubles with Lindy Myers who added one. Church M's point came courtesy of Roald Myers.

LCP Packers duo Nicky Barrett and Doug Smith swept aside Rugby J 5-0 in Division C. Free Church T beat Free Church Q 4-1 thanks to two from Lucy Marlow, one from Lauren Delday plus the doubles. David Marguerie hit back for Q with a single. Rugby I were 4-1 winners against Free Church O and Nic O'Connor and Billy Kyle both won two. Matthew Bain and Ed Williams salvaged a little pride by taking the doubles. Eathorpe J beat Free Church S 3-2 as Keith Hobbs took his two, plus the doubles with Poppy Egan. Charlie Snelson and Jacob Clarke both won one each.

Results – Div1: Colebridge A 9-1 Wellesbourne; Rugby A 2-8 St Georges A; St Georges B 5-5 Colebridge B. **Div2:** St Georges C 3-7 Whitnash A; Whitnash B 9-1 Rugby C. **Div3:** St Georges D 4-6 FISSC A; Rugby D 6-4 Nomads C. **Div4:** Ashorne 1-9 Free Church F; St Georges E 10-0 Eathorpe C; Eathorpe C 5-5 Free Church E; WCC D 6-4 Ashorne. **DivA:** WCC E 5-0 Free Church I; FISSC B 4-1 Eathorpe D; Free Church H 1-4 St Georges F; Eathorpe G 1-4 Rugby F. **DivB:** Free Church K 5-0 Eathorpe H; Eathorpe K 2-3 Free Church L; Free Church P 1-4 Snitterfield B; Free Church J 4-1 Free Church M. **DivC:** Rugby J 0-5 LCP Packers; Free Church Q 1-4 Free Church T; Rugby I 4-1 Free Church O; Free Church S 2-3 Eathorpe J.

Leamington Veterans A maintained their unbeaten record this season in Midland League Division 1 when triumphing 6-4 at Northampton last weekend. Phil Paine and Pat McCabe both won two singles for Spa, whilst Simon Griew added to a good all round team performance with a further singles and also partnered Paine to a crucial doubles success. Leamington trailed 3-4 at one stage, but staged a terrific late rally in winning the last three singles, with Paine ousting Free Church's Gary Webb in four tight sets in the deciding game to seal victory.

Leamington TTA's very own Webmaster has been flying the flag for the town in Stafford! Richard Grover with partner and team mate Dave Hall (Stone 'B') became Stafford Closed Handicap Doubles champions on Saturday evening with a convincing win over Premier Division Burton Manor pairing of Andrea Moreira and Liam Farmer in the finals night staged at STTA Headquarters, Burton Manor. Richard and Dave made the most of a 15-0 start in each game of the best of 3 up to 21 match to ease to a 21-7, 21-12 victory.

Finally, a reminder to all players that the entry forms for this year's Leamington Closed Championships are now out. The tournament will be held at Sydenham Sports Centre on March 8th/9th, with the finals being played one week later on Saturday 15th March at Kenilworth Wardens Club, Kenilworth. Please note a slight change to the entry procedure this year, in that entry forms should be returned to Dot Macfarlane. For anyone wishing to get some extra practice in, Lillington Free Church are running a tournament on Saturday 1st March, again at Sydenham Sports Centre. The morning event is played according to your age group, with the afternoon event graded by ability. Anyone who is interested in entering should contact Hugh Matthews.