

Isle of Wight

Table Tennis League

November 2021

Message from the Chairman

Hello All!

So, here we are almost a third of the way through the season already, and already we can tell which teams are showing strong performances in their divisions. Ryde A are 11 points up on nearest rivals Shanklin, but Shanklin have a game in hand; interestingly, already every team in Division 1 has lost a match, which makes for a more open season than usual at this point. Division 2 is also looking hotly contested, with Havenstreet Locos, Ryde Relics and Shanklin Skuas all within 6 points of each other. I must admit I had to look up what a "skua" was, so thanks to those guys for expanding my vocabulary! Division 3 looks a little more clear-cut at first glance, but although Ryde Rustics are out in front, Vics C have two games in hand.

We have had a few postponements already, which is fine, but please will team captains make every effort to get these played as soon as possible – Divisions 1 and 2 have a pretty full schedule this season, so re-arranged games will need to be slotted in as and when. Don't forget to let Ted know if you do postpone a match, and also check availability with Martin if you are thinking of playing an unscheduled match down at the Centre.

Whilst on the subject of the Centre, Monday evenings have recently been quite busy; for this reason, I would like to invite members to practice on Thursdays if they want to. There is usually only one match on a Thursday evening, so if you are interested in coming down on a Thursday please check with Martin that the Centre is open – and you might want to bring a friend, as I wouldn't like to guarantee that there will definitely be anyone down there who is not playing in the match! Also, Friday evenings are often quiet.

The full schedule of forthcoming tournaments has been published on the website; details about how to enter each one will be published nearer the time, but please take a note of times and dates of any you are interested in.

Media reports have been good so far (thanks, Debbie!), but it struck me that some of our newer players may not have their photos on file. For those of you who have granted permission, we may be looking for some action shots in the near future!

Well, that's about all for the moment; if I don't see you before Christmas, have a pleasant holiday season.

Regards,

Alex.

News

Table Tennis Reports

You may be aware that League reports and results are sent to the press each week; they go to the County Press, the Observer and online at the Island Echo. We are getting very good support from all these Island publications, and they will always feature the reports if they have room.

However, you may not realise that if you have not signed and returned your GDPR registration document then your name/photo cannot be included in the reports. If you sometimes wonder why you are left out, this is nothing personal! This is also the case for the newsletter, so please do return the forms so that we can give all of the players the recognition they deserve. I have been unable to mention some players by name in this newsletter owing to the forms not being returned with the necessary permissions. If we do not receive the forms, we have to presume that permission has not been granted.

If you also wish to send any match reports to deboldyard@hotmail.co.uk I will be able to write a much more comprehensive article for the press, so these are always gratefully received.

Coaching

Junior

Mike Prior's Saturday morning coaching sessions are going well with 12 youngsters having taken part since they resumed. At present there is only one girl attending, so if you know of any girls who would like to try their hand at table tennis please do let them know about the sessions. These are held between 10 am and 12 noon, and the cost is £3.

Senior

Glenn Morley has restarted his coaching sessions on Thursday mornings. If you are interested in improving your game come along at 9.30 am ready for a 10 am start. The cost is £4 and payment is by cash only please.

League News (as of 21st November)

Division One

Ryde A top the League with a margin of 11 points over second placed Shanklin Warriors, who have a game in hand. Wroxall A are third, and in fourth place Ryde Raiders are still in contention with two games in hand.



Rob Smith of Ryde A



Lee Orton of Ryde A

The Raiders Alex and the Royals Hugh top the averages with a 100% win record each. However, Ryde A's Mark lies in third place with 86.67% win average and has played more matches.

Other notable performers are Tom from Wroxall A, Michael from Shanklin Warriors and Lee and Rob from Ryde A.



Tom Johnson from Wroxall A

Vics B's Rob and Dave deserve a mention for coming up from the Second Division and holding their own with some good wins each.



Rob Warren of Vics B



Dave Newnham of Vics B

Division Two

Havenstreet Locos lead the table by 3 points over second placed Ryde Relics, with Shanklin Skuas a further 3 points behind in third. The Second Division championship looks to be fought out between these teams.



**Alan Hulbert of
Havenstreet Locos**

**Alan Dennis
of Shanklin Skuas**



Glenn of the Relics and Graham of Havenstreet Locos_top the players' averages with 100% each. The ever improving Spike of Shanklin Skuas has 86.67% and particular mention goes to 14 year old Lewis Johnstone of the Relics with an incredible 77.78% win average in his first season in full League table tennis.



Glenn Morley of Ryde Relics



Tom Waddell of Shanklin Skuas

Division Three

Having lost a team, Division Three now has only six teams.

Ryde Rustics head the Division Three table with a 12 point lead over Vics C and Shorwell A, who tie for second place, although Vics have games in hand.



Bert Paice of Ryde Rustics



Chris Gordine of Vics C

Young Ryan of Ryde Rookies is looking impressive with an 88.89% win average at present, winning 8 games out of 9. Vic's C's Chris and Debbie have 83.33%, along with one of Shorwell's new players who is doing equally well.

Island Table Tennis News Sheet – 1971

Many of you will remember Paul Cotton who sadly passed away last year. He had been playing Island table tennis since the 1940's and once he kindly gave me an old newsletter from 1971, typed up on an old fashioned typewriter which some of us do remember using ourselves! I have included a couple of excerpts here for your interest.

Firstly, here are the league tables from March 1971, with some clubs still existing today but who were NYC, JSW and Howard Flint? Does anyone know?

LEAGUE TABLES

DIVISION I

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Columbia A	21	17	4	0	156	56	38
Ryde A	22	16	5	1	159	61	37
Sandown A	21	16	1	4	147	63	37
B.H.C. A	21	14	3	4	132	78	31
Shanklin A	21	14	2	5	135	76	35
Ryde B	21	12	2	7	123	47	26
Vics A	21	10	1	10	116	96	21
L.W. Police A	21	8	2	11	103	107	18
Sandown C	22	5	1	16	72	140	11
Shanklin B	21	3	4	14	72	138	10
B.H.C. B	22	1	5	16	71	149	7
Sandown B	21	2	2	17	57	153	6
Havenstreet A	21	1	2	18	42	166	4

DIVISION II

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Columbia B	22	20	1	1	179	53	41
Ryde C	21	14	2	5	143	47	38
St. Lawrence A	22	12	5	5	124	96	29
B.H.C. C	21	3	6	7	119	100	22
Vics B	20	9	4	7	105	95	20
Sandown D	21	9	3	9	111	99	21
Shanklin C	21	9	3	9	104	106	21
Cowes Lib. A	20	6	6	8	84	116	18
Shanklin D	20	7	3	10	97	103	17
Havenstreet B	21	6	5	10	91	119	17
J.S.V. A	21	5	4	12	60	130	14
Plessey A	21	3	4	14	73	137	10
N.Y.C. A	21	0	2	19	48	162	2

DIVISION III

Sandown E	20	16	3	1	133	67	35
Ryde D	20	15	2	3	121	79	32
L.W. Police B	19	13	2	4	120	70	28
Shanklin E	19	13	2	4	108	82	23
Columbia C	20	12	3	5	122	78	27
B.H.C. D	19	10	2	7	102	86	22
Northwood A	19	7	1	11	89	101	15
Vics C	19	6	3	10	82	108	15
Havenstreet C	19	4	3	12	76	114	11
Ryde E	19	2	3	14	72	118	7
St. Lawrence B	20	1	4	15	70	130	6
J.S.V. B	19	2	2	15	65	125	6

DIVISION IV

Columbia D	20	17	1	2	158	42	35
Northwood B	20	16	3	1	141	59	35
L.W. Police C	19	13	3	3	124	66	29
Plessey B	20	12	4	4	126	74	28
Cowes Lib. B	19	8	5	6	91	99	21
N.Y.C. B	20	7	4	9	82	118	18
Sandown F	19	6	4	9	90	100	16
J.S.V. C	20	6	4	10	87	113	16
Plessey C	19	5	2	12	83	107	12
Plessey D	19	4	3	12	72	113	11
Havenstreet D	19	3	2	14	72	110	8
J.S.V. D	20	1	3	16	44	156	3

DIVISION V

Columbia F	17	17	0	0	149	21	34
Ryde F	18	15	0	3	143	37	30
Columbia E	18	14	0	4	133	47	23
St. Lawrence C	16	12	0	4	103	57	24
L.W. Police D	16	8	0	8	78	82	16
Vics D	18	7	1	10	74	106	15
Howard Flint	16	5	2	9	69	91	12
Plessey E	19	6	0	13	69	121	12
Shanklin F	16	4	1	11	52	108	9
Ryde G	18	4	0	14	62	110	8
Plessey F	16	0	0	16	8	152	0

A nice mention for four young players from Newport Victoria Sports Club, does anyone remember them?

Newport Victoria Sports Club

Could you please find space to mention four of the 'lesser lights' of the Isle of Wight Table Tennis in your next news sheet. I refer to four young lads from the 'Vics' who entered the fifth division this year with no competitive experience whatsoever, quite prepared to count the number of games they might win rather than points obtained, but so keen to 'have a go'.

They are Keith Steele, aged 13; Martin Mitchell, aged 13; Mark Wray, aged 14, and Tim Axford aged 16.

Their general behaviour and sportsmanship has been a joy to watch and any nets or edges not in their favour, has generally been accepted with a 'boyish grin'. They are such good pals, encouraging each other in their matches and agreeing to step down in turn from league encounters irrespective of individual results. Their results to date are a credit to them. After a naturally nervous start, they managed six points in the first half of the season, but after only seven games in the second half have a total of 15 points. One boy in particular, Martin Mitchell, (Freddie Mitchell's lad) has made his presence felt in the second half after winning only four games in the first. To-date he has played 18 games in the second half of the season and won 16 of them. Some improvement! As the weeks go by their general play seems to improve, partly due perhaps to experience, but mainly I feel, from the weekly coach course they attend enthusiastically at Newport organised by Mr. I. Smith.

May this, their sportsmanship, pleasure in competing and general good behaviour continue, then their table tennis future could be quite bright.

J. Rossi
Hon. Secretary

Dear Joan,

It was rather disturbing to discover that the price of the annual Dinner Dance ticket at the Ponda had risen to £1.43...

DINNER DANCE

As reported last month, the event takes place at the "Ponda" on April 23rd, 7 o'clock for 7.30 p.m. The price of tickets will be £1.43 which is slightly up on last season but then I think this is only to be expected.

Any memories of these long forgotten times would be much appreciated!

From the Archives

The English Table Tennis Association's Table Tennis News only published two editions in the latter part of 1985 and these were short of Isle of Wight news, except that relating to Carl Prean. As John Prean was no longer writing for the publication, the detailed and interesting reports on Island table tennis were missing.

In the November edition John Prean had a letter published where he expressed his thanks for support he had received, and mentioned the problems with English table tennis.

I shall not write for this magazine in the foreseeable future. Readers have given me a great deal of support both publicly and privately. May I thank them all, particularly those who have not always agreed with me, but felt that I (and everybody else) had every right to express my views, to stimulate debate and change.

My county has just elected me as its National Councillor and my voice will continue to be heard, particularly when there is injustice and incompetence or anything else that denies English table tennis a place in the sun. We have fallen behind other countries and other sports and we are losing members rapidly – 8% last season alone. Never was there such a time for a united effort, a fresh start.

The Island's Carl Prean had achieved the first ever clean sheet by an English player at a European championship.

European Youth Championships

Empire of the Son

by National Trainer Donald Parker

While several of our players in the past decade have been close to a clean sheet in a European championship, nobody had actually achieved it until Carl Prean this year. His performance must go down as the best I have seen from an English player. It was just rewards for the work and effort he put in before the tournament.



Carl Prean and Csilla Batorfi – 1985 European junior mixed doubles champions

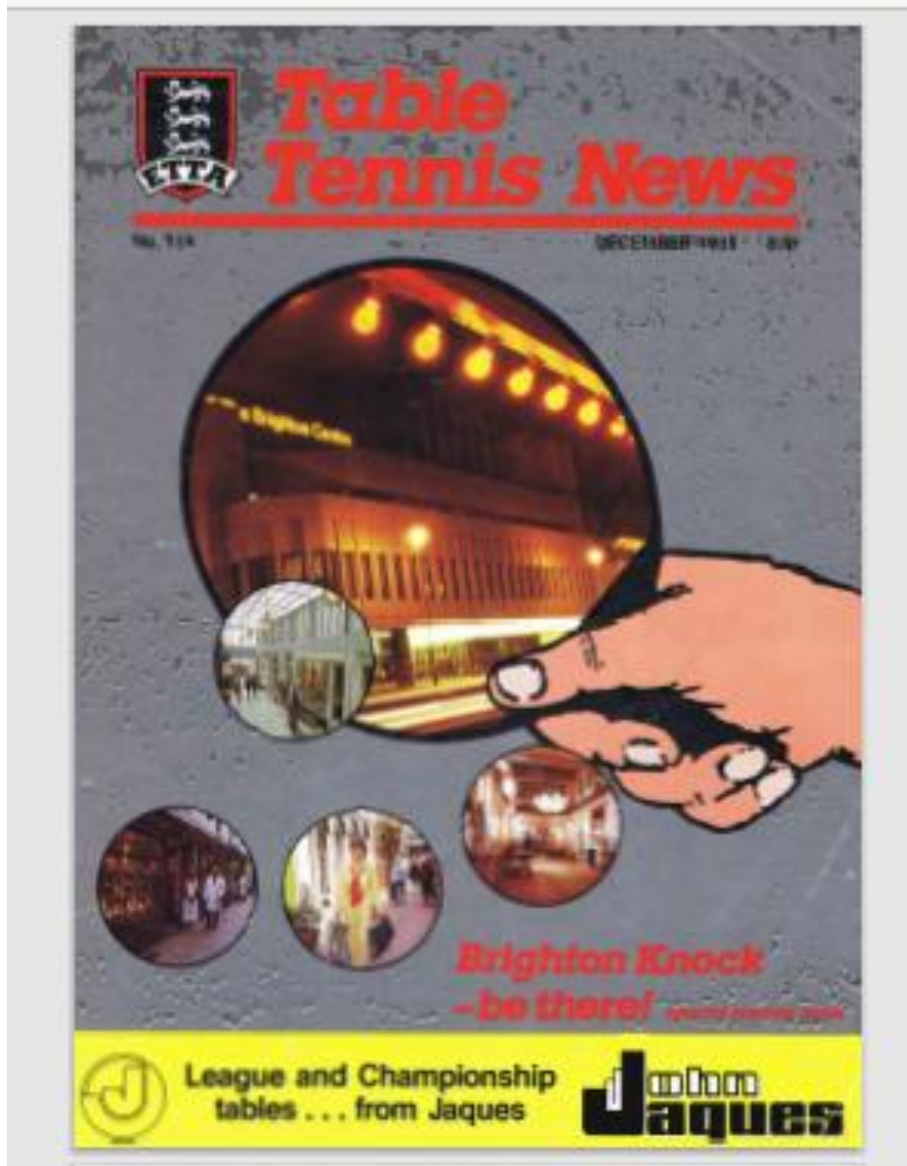
Unfortunately the only other Island news was in relation to us needing help with our schools' table tennis:

CHAIRMAN'S APPEAL

ESTTA Chairman John Arnold has appealed to the ETTA National Council for help in finding correspondents in nine of the Schools Association's 50 county areas where, at present, there is no effective contact.

The counties where help is needed are: East Sussex, Essex Metropolitan, Isle of Wight, Merseyside, Northumberland, North Yorkshire, West Sussex and Wiltshire.

The December edition had a rather snazzy cover picture, but no inspiring Island news:



The only mention of Island League table tennis was regarding a defeat:

Senior 3B

Glamorgan 4 Avon I 6;

Avon II I Devon II 9;

Herefordshire 6 IoW. 4;

Cornwall 5 Somerset II 5.

With Herefordshire competing again, they started off with a win against the **Isle of Wight**.

Mark Owen won both his singles events and partnered Jimmy Ahern to win the mens doubles. Sharon Powell did well to win her singles after losing the first game to **Joy Batten** at 11-21.

Sharon and Sue Segust won the womens doubles 14, -20, 19!

In addition we were referred to as a 'dead' county in regards to Schools table tennis:

Perhaps 1986 may be a better year for the Island...

Which are the "dead" counties?

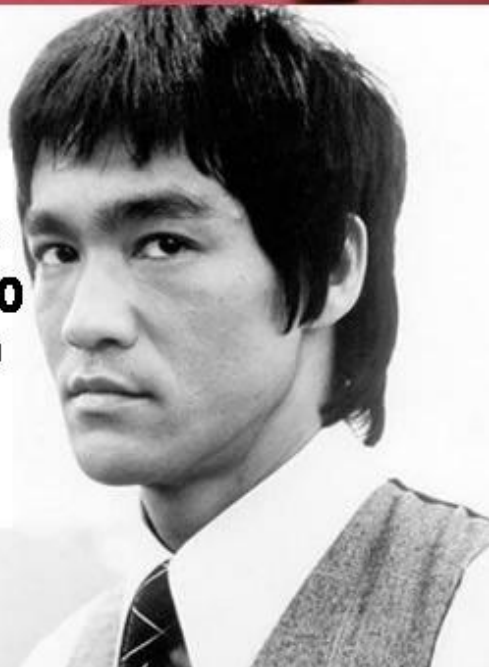
East Sussex, Merseyside, Middlesex, Northumberland, North Yorkshire, West Sussex and the Isle of **Wight**.

And Finally...



**"I FEAR NOT THE MAN WHO HAS
PRACTICED 10.000 BACKHANDS
ONCE, BUT I DO FEAR A MAN WHO
HAS PRACTICED ONE BACKHAND
10.000 TIMES."**

-BRUCE LEE



Thank you for reading. The next newsletter will be in January 2022. All contributions are very much appreciated so do please send any suggestions, articles or photos to: deboldyard@hotmail.co.uk