**League Report**

**Courier 3rd March 2017**

**Free Church M have a healthy lead at the top of Division A but had to be on their mettle as they edged Norton Lindsey A 3-2. Nikit Sajiv won his two and Sajiv Swamy won once but Lindsey bounced back through a single from Gareth Hepworth and a doubles success when Hepworth partnered Ron Shakesheff. This was followed by another 3-2 win over Free Church P for whom Josh Yarrow won two. Swamy and Robbie Fitchford enjoyed a win each and paired for the doubles. Snitterfield sit in joint second with FC P and hammered bottom side Rugby H 5-0, Stuart Ayres and Tim Fell securing the points.**

**In Division B 4th placed Free Church Q sprung a surprise when defeating second placed FISSC A 3-2, thanks to two wins for Alex Costa and a single from Marc Briscoe. Brian Marston replied with a single and won an exciting doubles with Mark Kingham. Leaders Free Church N whitewashed Ashorne A, Keith Knott and Daniel Shaw doing the damage.**

**Ashorne B sit at the top of Division C and eclipsed Eathorpe F 5-0, thanks to Steve Kay and Roger Pye. They then edged second placed Free Church T 3-2 with wins from Jim Jack and Kay who also took the doubles. Ben Holding won both of his singles for Church. Eathorpe F recovered from their previous reverse to defeat Free Church S 3-2, despite a double from Sarah Costa. Richard Freeman and Dave Hawker each won a singles and eased to a doubles success.**

**In Division D Rugby I went second taking all the points against Norton Lindsay B through Josh Adams and Kieran McNicholas.**

**County Council F have taken top spot in Division E in style with a 5-0 thumping of Eathorpe H, Bernard Hardingham and Steve Maggs showing no mercy. However, they might have to work hard to preserve that status as they went down 1-4 to second placed FISSC B in their next match. Jeremy Sampson notched their point but Martin Hamer (2) and Mandip Takhar (1) plus the doubles saw the visitors to an emphatic win. Third placed Free Church R are waiting in the wings and triumphed 5-0 against Eathorpe H, Nicholas Ho and Seb Priest amassing the points.**

**Eathorpe I have moved to the summit of Division F with a 3-2 win over Free Church U in a match described by spectators as “good viewing”. It certainly was a credit to the lowest division and Josh Cope (2) and Christian Roberts (1) look excellent prospects. Chris Hearn responded for Church and steered 10 year old Harvey Wilson to the doubles. Rugby L nailed their first win of the campaign with a 3-2 success over Free Church W. George Spraget won his two and partnered Connor Invernizzi to the doubles. Erin Darwen and Emma Pulman kept matters tight. Free Church X were in fine form against their V side, winning 4-1. George Barnes won his two, Alex O’Driscoll won once and the pair combined to snatch the doubles. Owain Jones grabbed V’s consolation.**

**National Junior League**

**Wellingborough, 25th February 2017**

**Lillington Free Church A’s trio of Ricardo Bolanos, Nikit Sajiv and Livvy Fletcher stormed to the Division 1 title in the National Junior League regional finals held in Wellingborough on Saturday. They started the day in joint top position alongside Great Stukely of Huntingdon but 5 emphatic wins saw them take the crown by an 11 point margin. Rugby and St Neots A were defeated 6-0, Knighton Park of Leicester fell 5-1 and Milton Keynes 4-2. The championship was already decided before Lillington faced Great Stukely but the team signed off in style with a 5-1 hammering of their nearest rivals. Bolanos was undefeated on the day, finishing joint top of the averages over 2 days with Fletcher and Sajiv finishing 4th and 5th in the averages.**

**Rugby were also in this division but Sam Cafearo and Jack Evans were handicapped by being a player short and finished 5th , their best score line a draw with Milton Keynes.**

**Lillington B in the guise of Milan Sajiv, Jenny Singleton and Emily Beasley did well to finish third in Division 2. They lost 2-4 to the winners, WDHA Juniors of Wellingborough, and to St Neots B but drew with Lillington C and accounted for Westfield A (Wellingborough) and Cliffedale Chambers A (Grantham) 4-2 and 5-1 respectively.**

**Lillington C did magnificently to finish just a point behind their B side in 4th, well clear of the bottom two. Their only loss was to WDHA, 0-6, but a draw against Cliffedale and two 4-2 successes over St Neots and Westfield afforded them a very creditable finish. Tom Fletcher, who enjoyed an outstanding win over Kamran Bastani of Westfield, was well supported by Eve Briscoe and Ben Hall.**

**Lillington D finished a close 4th in Division 3. Their best performances were a draw against Bedford B and a 5-1 win over St Neots C but Katie Singleton, Josh Yarrow, who only dropped one point all day, Eduardo Bolanos and Alex Costa can look forward to next season’s campaign with confidence. Debutant Costa’s day included a particularly good win over Westfield’s Daniel Mann.**