

LONDON BANKS AND CIVIL SERVICE TABLE TENNIS LEAGUE BULLETIN 5

AS AT 4 NOVEMBER 2018

	P	W	D	F	A	B	P
CASTAWAYS	5	3	2	39	11	15	54
MORPETH	4	3	1	27	13	12	39
PRO	4	3	0	27	13	12	39
NAT WEST	4	2	1	26	14	12	38
EMPLOYMENT	4	2	0	21	19	12	33
TREASURY A	3	2	1	24	6	9	33
COMETS	4	1	1	18	22	12	30
INSURANCE	4	1	1	14	26	12	26
SPARTA	3	1	0	14	16	9	23
DIT	5	0	1	7	43	15	22
BTB	4	0	0	3	37	12	15

Bonus points shown in penultimate column. Ultimate column shows total points from sets won and bonuses

THINGS TO NOTE

- ✓ Individual match scores can be found on the website https://www.tabletennis365.com/londonbanksandcivilservice/Fixtures/Season_2018-2019/Division_One

COMMENTARY

Week 5

First match this week involves Morpeth and Comets. I thought this would be close even though Steve Fagan wasn't playing. The first four sets all ended in the fourth. Brown beat Gargrupe, Rob Chambers lost to Ian Francis, Bekele won a well-fought set against Codrington while Chambers opened his account defeating Gargrupe. Next came the closest set of the night. Codrington rattled off the first two ends against Brown but fighting finishes from Duncan in the next two ends – both deuce wins – levelled the score. The fifth end reached 11-11 and Steve could have been forgiven for thinking “how am I ever going to shake this man off”. On to 12-12 and then 13-12 to Steve. Could Duncan escape yet another time? The answer proved to be “no” as time ran out for Duncan, losing 14-12 in the fifth after 104 points. Good battle! Next set was a potential match turner but Bekele proved to be too strong for Francis, winning in four. Morpeth led 6-3 at the doubles but Comets weren't done yet and pulled off a fine doubles win 11-8 in the fifth. A good fight ends 6-4 to Morpeth. DIT versus Employment proved to be a one sided affair ending in a 10-0 victory for Employment. Eight sets ended three straight and the two that didn't both went the distance. Graham Miller put up strong resistance against Chris McKee coming from two ends to one down to take the set to a fifth end. That proved to be a bridge too far for Graham who lost out 11-8 in the end. It was not to be Graham's night as he then lost an even closer set – against Anita Jermyn - 12-14 in the fifth. So, three wins for both McKee and Jermyn but it was their teammate and debutant Lew Hodges who was untroubled on the night. Lew is a teammate of Anita Jermyn's, playing most of his table tennis around Bromley and Croydon leagues. I have previously commiserated with BTB for their tough start to the season. Life was always going to be hard against Castaways but any glimmer of hope for BTB evaporated when Castaways fielded potentially their strongest team. Predictably, the match concluded 10-0 to Castaways, all three straight. Good to see Andy Nash back for Castaways after a long break for a serious injury that dates back almost 18 months. Andy used to be a 75%+ player but it will take time to get back to that form. PRO have started the season brilliantly but came down to earth with a huge bump against Treasury. Denis Robinson opened the scoring for Treasury with a surprisingly comfortable three straight win over John Crawford. After that, it was all Treasury, winning set after set, interrupted only by a Crawford defeat of Giovanni Giuffrida. The scorecard makes fairly dismal reading for PRO as they were only in with a chance in a couple of sets. The outcome was 9-1 to Treasury and the end of PRO's winning run of three on the trot. The best contest of the week saw Insurance so nearly beat highflying Nat West. First set and Ian Cranstone faces Gareth Jones. Gareth ran away with the first two ends, both 11-5, and then inexplicably came to a halt, losing the third, fourth and final ends comfortably. Makes you wonder what happened to cause that change. In set two, Jon Velinor put up a good

showing against Chris Herbert and so nearly extended the set to a fifth end. There followed a string of dingdong battles. Velinor came within a whisker of beating Jones, losing 11-8 in the fifth after 104 points. Albert Francis nearly pulled off an upset win over Chris Herbert, losing 12-10 in the fifth, in a set that could have gone either way. And, finally, Cranstone went two ends to one up against Herbert before being pipped at the post 11-7 in the fifth. The match outcome was a draw but Nat West probably went home thinking they dodged a bullet in that encounter. A good team performance by Insurance!

So Castaways extend their lead at the top while Morpeth and PRO are equal in second place. At the other end of the table, Sparta and Insurance need to continue picking up points against the possibility of a turn of fortune for DIT and BTB.

RICHARD CAMPBELL
DIVISIONAL SECRETARY

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AVERAGES (Qualification: ≥4 sets played)

Player	Team	Sets Won	Sets Played	Average (%)
Bekele	MORPETH	6	6	100.0
Penrose	NAT WEST	6	6	100.0
Herbert	NAT WEST	8	9	88.9
Turner	PRO	8	9	88.9
LeMilliere	CASTAWAYS	13	15	86.7
Harris	CASTAWAYS	5	6	83.3
Jermyn	EMPLOYMENT	5	6	83.3
McKee	CASTAWAYS	7	9	77.8
McKee	EMPLOYMENT	7	9	77.8
Persaud	PRO	7	9	77.8
Wong	TREASURY A	7	9	77.8
Brown	MORPETH	6	9	66.7
Crawford	PRO	6	9	66.7
Evans	SPARTA	6	9	66.7
Robinson	TREASURY A	6	9	66.7
Wroe	CASTAWAYS	6	9	66.7
Codrington	COMETS	7	12	58.3
Chambers	MORPETH	5	9	55.6
Francis	COMETS	5	9	55.6
Cranstone	INSURANCE	6	12	50.0
Buchanan	PRO	3	6	50.0
Tokely	SPARTA	3	6	50.0
Baylis	EMPLOYMENT	4	9	44.4
Jones	NAT WEST	4	9	44.4
Francis	INSURANCE	5	12	41.7
Fagan	COMETS	2	6	33.3
Sinarain	BTB	2	12	16.7
Velinor	INSURANCE	2	12	16.7
Miller	DIT	1	9	11.1
Waterhouse	BTB	1	9	11.1
Gazheli	DIT	1	11	9.1
Mehta	DIT	1	11	9.1