

LONDON BANKS AND CIVIL SERVICE TABLE TENNIS LEAGUE BULLETIN 12

AS AT 12 JANUARY 2020

	P	W	D	F	A	B	P
CASTAWAYS	11	8	3	86	24	33	119
COMETS	10	9	1	82	18	30	112
MORPETH A	10	8	1	74	26	30	104
EMPLOYMENT	11	6	0	62	48	33	95
NAT WEST	10	7	2	63	37	30	93
GOOD KARMA	11	4	1	51	59	33	84
MORPETH C	11	2	2	46	64	33	79
SPARTA	11	2	1	35	75	33	68
PRO	10	3	0	32	68	30	62
TREASURY B	10	1	1	23	77	30	53
OUTCASTS	9	1	0	16	74	27	43

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_2019-2020/Division_One
- ✓ Treasury B postponed against Comets this week

COMMENTARY

Week 15

The year starts with an unexpected draw between Nat West and Morpeth C. Part of the explanation is down to Nat West only having two players and also fielding Andrew Muller who acts as their reserve. This proved to be a tough night for Andrew going down three straight to Max Shilo and in four ends to Clark Nicholls. In his other set, Andrew stormed to a three straight win over Rytis Bulvicius. Nat West other player was Chris Penrose who had no difficulty with Nicholls and Bulvicius. Max Shilo put up strong opposition but Chris won the set in four ends. That made it 5-4 to Morpeth going into the doubles but Nat West won the doubles comfortably to secure a draw. Employment faced the strongest team that Morpeth A can field, which included Alex Luk's first appearance of the season, partnered with Jane Ji and Samson Bekele. Employment's Paul Baylis and Richard Mak found the opposition too hot to handle and won one end between them all evening. Employment's third player was Jason Killip who began with an impressive three straight win over Bekele, which included an 18-16 end, the longest of the season thus far. That was Samson's first loss of the season. Subsequently, Jason had a titanic battle with Jane Ji. Jane was in front after three ends and so nearly won it in the fourth end but Jason clung on to win the end 12-10. All was set for a hard fought deciding end but inexplicably all the points began to go in the same direction and the end was convincingly won 11-3. Who was the victor – well, that was Jason Killip pulling off an impressive win. Only Alex Luk stood between Jason and a stellar maximum. Alex's class was evident last season as he piled up win after win and it showed against the in-form Killip as Alex took the set three straight and looking comfortable. That extends Alex's longest unbeaten streak record to 24 wins on the trot. The result was 8-2 to Morpeth but a good night's table tennis. Castaways beat Sparta 10-0 in the first half and were looking to repeat that score. That aspiration was dashed as early as set two when Dave Evans beat Johnny Bispham in three close ends. In set four, Evans was down against LeMilliere but staged a huge comeback to take the fourth end and went on to win the deciding end 12-10. A good come-from-behind win. Only Terry McKee could stop Evans in his quest for his first maximum of the season. It was honours even going into the deciding end but, like the Killip / Ji result, the outcome was perplexingly one-sided and went in McKee's favour, 11-4 in the fifth. A good effort from Dave who's having a quiet season by his high standards. Everything else went Castaways' way - an 8-2 result that must be seen as points dropped by Castaways. Final match of the week and a big upset. Karma crush PRO by the runaway scoreline of 9-1. Bearing in mind PRO won the first half fixture 7-3

this was quite a turnaround. There was no hint of things to come after two sets, the score was 1-1, a win in four for Sanders over Persaud and a gritty battling win in five ends for Buchanan over Guy Fernback. In set four, Guy looked like losing to Persaud but held on to win the fourth end and then went on to steal the fifth end 12-10. 106 points played in that set. The remainder of the card makes sad reading for PRO as they really weren't in it and the evening ended 9-1 against them. Ben Link took the Player of the Match award but I'd pick out George Sanders for his three wins, having emerged winless from the first half fixture. I'm beginning to worry about PRO. I think their season might turn on the outcomes of their next two matches.

With Comets not playing, Castaways go back to the top. They have a seven-point buffer but Comets have a match in hand. Next week we have a bonus fixture as Nat West are playing their postponed match against Morpeth A. Could be a close match. Nat West play twice next week, their other game being against Outcasts. An ambitious schedule for them following a week when Nat West could only field two players! Castaways have a banana skin fixture against Morpeth C. Do you remember the first half result, which was 9-1 to Castaways but with unanimous agreement that 7-3 would have been a fairer reflection of the contest? Comets have what should be a trouble-free match against Sparta but you never know. On current form, Employment should be too strong for Karma but, as PRO found this week, it would be unwise to underestimate Karma. And finally, Treasury B face PRO. This is without doubt the biggest fixture of the season so far for both clubs. A big win for PRO should all but remove any fears of relegation for them but a big win for Treasury blows the relegation battle wide open. Going to be interesting!

RICHARD CAMPBELL
DIVISIONAL SECRETARY

Issued: 13/01/2020

AVERAGES (Qualification: ≥11 sets played)

Player	Team	Sets Won	Sets Played	Average (%)
Fung	COMETS	17	17	100.0
Harris	CASTAWAYS	23	24	95.8
Penrose	NAT WEST	14	15	93.3
Persaud	COMETS	14	15	93.3
Bekele	MORPETH A	11	12	91.7
Ji	MORPETH A	20	23	87.0
Killip	EMPLOYMENT	12	14	85.7
Catt	NAT WEST	10	12	83.3
Chambers	MORPETH A	16	20	80.0
Herbert	NAT WEST	19	24	79.2
LeMilliere	CASTAWAYS	22	30	73.3
Francis	COMETS	11	15	73.3
Turner	COMETS	8	11	72.7
Bispham	CASTAWAYS	13	18	72.2
Fagan	COMETS	9	13	69.2
Brown	MORPETH A	7	11	63.6
Baylis	EMPLOYMENT	13	22	59.1
Greenberg	GOOD KARMA	6	11	54.5
Alnak	MORPETH C	8	15	53.3
Loveder	SPARTA	8	15	53.3
Sanders	GOOD KARMA	10	19	52.6
Evans	SPARTA	9	18	50.0
McKee	EMPLOYMENT	9	18	50.0
Dight	TREASURY B	7	15	46.7

Robertson	MORPETH C	7	15	46.7
Crawford	PRO	11	24	45.8
Coull	OUTCASTS	5	12	41.7
Guimichev	TREASURY B	6	15	40.0
Shilo	MORPETH C	7	18	38.9
Jones	NAT WEST	9	24	37.5
Nicholls	MORPETH C	9	24	37.5
Persaud	PRO	6	17	35.3
Tokely	SPARTA	10	30	33.3
Jameson	OUTCASTS	6	18	33.3
Mak	EMPLOYMENT	5	16	31.3
Buck	PRO	6	21	28.6
Blyuss	MORPETH A	4	15	26.7
Buchanan	PRO	5	20	25.0
Zhao	GOOD KARMA	3	14	21.4
Bulvicius	MORPETH C	3	15	20.0
Hattrill	SPARTA	4	21	19.0
Roullier	OUTCASTS	2	15	13.3
Gittens	TREASURY B	1	15	6.7
Macalister	OUTCASTS	1	18	5.6