

# LONDON BANKS AND CIVIL SERVICE TABLE TENNIS LEAGUE BULLETIN 8

AS AT 25 NOVEMBER 2018

	<b>P</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>P</b>
CASTAWAYS	7	5	2	59	11	21	80
MORPETH	7	6	1	50	20	21	71
NAT WEST	7	4	1	48	22	21	69
TREASURY A	7	3	1	42	28	21	63
COMETS	7	4	1	41	29	21	62
EMPLOYMENT	7	4	0	35	35	21	56
PRO	6	4	0	35	25	18	53
INSURANCE	6	2	1	26	34	18	44
SPARTA	6	1	0	16	44	15	31
DIT	7	0	1	10	60	21	31
BTB	7	0	0	8	62	21	29

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](https://www.tabletennis365.com/londonbanksandcivilservice/Fixtures/Season_2018-2019/Division_One)

## COMMENTARY

### Postponed match

Treasury reintroduced an old name for their rearranged fixture with Sparta. It was Petko Guimichev who last played in the Division in the 2016-17 season. He made an impressive debut, taking all three. He beat Peter Tokely and Mandy John three straight. He lost the first end to Dave Evans but then took the next three ends, each of which was quite close. Dave won his other two sets but that was the sum total of Sparta's successes in the match. 8-2 to Treasury leaving Sparta with a single win this season.

### Week 8

Morpeth paid DIT the compliment of fielding almost their strongest team against them. With two players with perfect records in the opposition, life was always going to be tough for DIT. In the first set Florian Gazheli put up a real challenge to Stuart Sweeney, levelling the match at two ends all but just missing out 11-6 in the decider. DIT took an end in sets two and three but Luk and Bekele were just too strong. In set four Graham Miller got DIT on the board with a win in four ends over Sweeney. That made the score 3-1 to Morpeth but it wasn't long before they converted that to 9-1. Only one set won by DIT but the individual scores suggest they put up a good performance. Employment versus Treasury and a surprise result! Both teams put out rather unusual teams, which made the result hard to call. A super opening for Treasury as Dennis Robinson beats Paul Baylis in a hard fought contest – four ends needed and the last two ended at deuce. Chris McKee hasn't played much this year for Employment but when he does he's been very effective. He began with a definite three straight win over Petko Guimichev, conceding a meagre 13 points and then went on to win all three comfortably. The match score reached 4-4 and Baylis faced Guimichev. A potentially very even contest and someone needs to step up to be a hero. The first two ends both went to Baylis but Guimichev takes the third end and they become almost inseparable in the fourth end, which reaches 10-10. At this point it's a coin toss but it's Baylis who calls correctly and steals it 12-10 and with it the set. 5-4! So will this be a drawn match or a win for Employment? Thus far Employment's doubles record is a puny one win from six. But that one win came from the Baylis/McKee combination and it was that pairing that faced Treasury. When the curtain came down it was on an impressive Employment victory – in four close ends when, to be honest, there wasn't much in it. So a 6-4 win for Employment – on paper, against the odds – and their record improves to four wins out of seven. I hesitate to say that ends Treasury's chance of retaining the title but they've only had one win out of the last four contests.

Another familiar name appeared for the first time this season in the Nat West team against BTB. It was Les Samuels who last played in the Division towards the end of last season. The match proved to be a straightforward win for Nat West, not dropping a set. Flavinda Xavier and Rishi Sinarain each took one end but the closest set of the night was Geoff Waterhouse against Gareth Jones. Geoff won the first two ends and was on the verge of winning the third before losing it 12-10. That seemed to turn the match because Gareth came back to win the next two ends narrowly and so take the set. 101 points played in that set and an unfortunate near miss for Geoff. Castaways fielded their strongest team against PRO and made short work of their rivals. Reviewing the result card it's hard to identify a set in which a PRO player was in with a good chance. Ronnie Turner is having a good season for PRO but he came up winless, managing to win just two ends all night. Jai Persaud did the same and that was all PRO could salvage from the match. They now find themselves down to seventh place in the standings. An impressive 10-0 win for Castaways – perhaps they were never likely to lose the fixture but the emphatic way they won it should trouble their title rivals. To end the week, another 10-0. This time it's Sparta losing heavily to Comets. After last week's aberration, Steve Fagan had something to prove and duly delivered a comfortable maximum, having to negotiate just one wobble, against Peter Tokely when Peter nearly took their set into a fifth end. Ian Francis came through the evening without breaking sweat and both he and Steve Codrington have improved their averages to 70%. Best set of the night was Codrington against Tokely where Peter got the better of the first three ends before losing the fourth end. The final end was mighty close but Steve just edged in front to win it 13-11. Another near miss in what has been a week of near misses. Praise for Many John's backhand from her opponents – no shot draws more attention in this Division!

Best fixture next week looks to be Castaways against Comets. I make no predictions but if Castaways bring this one home 10-0 I think they're beginning to look uncatchable. Morpeth, Nat West and Treasury all play teams in the bottom four of the division and so will be looking for convincing scorelines. Might Insurance take a set or two from Morpeth? Or Sparta follow suit at Nat West? Final fixture of the week sees BTB trying to break their duck against this week's surprise winners, Employment.

**RICHARD CAMPBELL  
DIVISIONAL SECRETARY**

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**AVERAGES (Qualification: ≥7 sets played)**

<b>Player</b>	<b>Team</b>	<b>Sets Won</b>	<b>Sets Played</b>	<b>Average (%)</b>
Bekele	MORPETH	15	15	100.0
Luk	MORPETH	9	9	100.0
Harris	CASTAWAYS	11	12	91.7
LeMilliere	CASTAWAYS	19	21	90.5
Herbert	NAT WEST	15	18	83.3
McKee	CASTAWAYS	10	12	83.3
McKee	EMPLOYMENT	10	12	83.3
Hodges	EMPLOYMENT	7	9	77.8
Penrose	NAT WEST	7	9	77.8
Sweeney	MORPETH	7	9	77.8
Crawford	PRO	9	12	75.0
Turner	PRO	11	15	73.3
Francis	COMETS	13	18	72.2
Codrington	COMETS	15	21	71.4
Robinson	TREASURY A	10	15	66.7
Evans	SPARTA	8	12	66.7
Brown	MORPETH	6	9	66.7

Catt	NAT WEST	6	9	66.7
Jermyn	EMPLOYMENT	6	9	66.7
Wroe	CASTAWAYS	6	9	66.7
Baylis	EMPLOYMENT	9	15	60.0
Jones	NAT WEST	9	15	60.0
Wong	TREASURY A	9	15	60.0
Persaud	PRO	7	12	58.3
Cranstone	INSURANCE	10	18	55.6
Francis	INSURANCE	9	18	50.0
Jones	TREASURY A	4	9	44.4
Chambers	MORPETH	5	12	41.7
Fagan	COMETS	6	15	40.0
Giuffrida	TREASURY A	4	12	33.3
Velinor	INSURANCE	4	18	22.2
Sinarain	BTB	3	15	20.0
Tokely	SPARTA	3	15	20.0
Miller	DIT	2	15	13.3
Gazheli	DIT	2	17	11.8
Waterhouse	BTB	2	18	11.1
Xavier	BTB	2	18	11.1
Buck	PRO	1	9	11.1
Mehta	DIT	1	11	9.1
John	SPARTA	1	12	8.3
Roberts	BTB	1	12	8.3
Goodman	DIT	1	17	5.9