

LONDON BANKS AND CIVIL SERVICE TABLE TENNIS LEAGUE BULLETIN 08

AS AT 1 DECEMBER 2024

	P	W	D	F	A	B	P
MORPETH A	6	5	0	39	21	18	57
COMETS A	4	4	0	38	2	12	50
CASTAWAYS	5	3	2	34	16	15	49
COMETS B	5	1	1	24	26	15	39
NAT WEST	5	2	1	21	29	15	36
PRO	5	1	2	20	27	15	35
COMETS C	6	0	0	9	51	18	27
OUTCASTS	4	1	0	12	28	9	21

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

THINGS TO NOTE

- Individual match details can be found on the website at

https://www.tabletennis365.com/LondonBanksAndCivilService/Fixtures/Active_Season_24-25/Division_One

- Check out the photos on the front page of the website under Featured Photos. Is your team there?
- Want a trip down memory lane? Every weekly bulletin issued since the 2014-15 season can be found on the website under the “Div Sec Reports” heading

COMMENTARY

Week 08

Outcasts conceded this week’s match against PRO as they were unable to field a team at the last minute.

Castaways have stuttered a bit recently and are on a run of two matches without a win. This week they face Comets C. It’s Mike Loveder, Neil LeMilliere and, for the first time this season, Terry McKee. In the opposition is Richard Hallinan, Greg Gargrupe and Hej Sultani. Hallinan opened against Loveder and lost in three. One end was easy but the other two were narrow two-point margins. Gargrupe then started brightly against LeMilliere, taking a close first end. After that, it seemed like one of those sets where Greg was never out of it but equally could never establish a lead, culminating in a four-end loss. On paper, it was always Sultani’s sets which were likely to be where Castaways might drop points. He first faced Terry McKee and made surprisingly light work of that winning three straight, though one end did finish at deuce. LeMilliere came back to the table and looked never in doubt against Hallinan. LeMilliere and Loveder had both lost to Sultani earlier in the season and were looking for revenge. Loveder had the first chance of that but was perilously close to being blown away three straight as the score reached deuce in the third with Loveder having lost the first two ends. Loveder managed to steal that end and went on to take the fourth end too. We’re in the decisive end but Mike falls just short, losing 11-5. Long set that – 96 points! Next to try his luck was LeMilliere against Sultani. Was revenge to be on the cards this time? It’s a good start for Neil, taking the first end, but Hej fights back and levels the match. We reached exactly the same point the last time they met, only for Hej to take the next two ends. That history was not to be repeated on this occasion as LeMilliere just managed to secure the third end 11-9. The fourth end was nip and tuck and, as with the other ends, there wasn’t much in it. LeMilliere got to 10-9 up, secured the next point, and claimed the victory 11-9 in the fourth! There really wasn’t much in that. Four ends, LeMilliere wins 41 points to Sultani’s 37! Good win and first maximum for Neil this season. After that, Castaways ran away with the remaining sets to win the match 8-2. Castaways keep up the pressure on Comets A and Morpeth at the top of the table. Things may be clearer soon as Castaways visit Morpeth next week!

The other match this week was Nat West against Comets B. Nat West's team was Gareth Jones, Adam Johnson and Les Samuels. Comets fielded Adil Islam, Jason Morley and David Adesanya. The first set – Jones against Islam - looked quite evenly poised at one end all before a huge third end occurred. It reached deuce and ended at 14-12. The winner was Islam and that win appeared to completely change the momentum of the contest. Suddenly, Adil started to pull away in the fourth end and soon accumulated a hefty lead. The outcome was an 11-5 victory for Adil – three close ends and one runaway final end. The second set was close too – Adam Johnson beating Jason Morley three straight but there was only a few points between the players in each of the ends. Next up Les Samuels took on Adesanya. First blood to Adesanya but only just – 12-10. Two ends followed which both finished at 11-8 and which were both won by Les. In the fourth end, Les was totally dominant, securing the win with an 11-2 scoreline. That's a good win for Les who lost the last time they played each other. Set four saw Gareth Jones make no headway against Adesanya, losing three straight. Adam Johnson then faced Adesanya. Could he emulate the Les Samuels performance? It begins well with Adam winning the first end 11-6. But after that David took over and rattled off three fairly comfortable ends to claim the victory (David lost the last time they played). Samuels then proved too strong for Islam taking the match score to 3-3. The next set was the only one to go to five ends. It was Jones against Morley and the scores went all over the place. Gareth won the first end 11-4 but found the second end much harder, culminating at 13-11 in his favour. The third end was also close and also finished at deuce but this time in Jason's favour. That spelled the beginning of a comeback and Jason took the fourth end to level the match. By this time Jason was steaming, winning point after point, to take the set 11-2! Impressive come-from-behind victory! Comets lead 4-3 but Nat West come back with two quick wins – Johnson beating Islam and Samuels beating Islam to go in front 5-4. Comets could still salvage a draw if they win the doubles but that was not to be as Nat West romped home three straight to claim a 6-4 result. A good match for Les Samuels, winning all three in a match that was closer than I was expecting.

RICHARD CAMPBELL
DIVISIONAL SECRETARY

Issued: 02/12/2024

AVERAGES (Qualification: ≥ 6 sets played)

Player	Team	Sets Won	Sets Played	Average (%)
Persaud	COMETS A	11	11	100.0
Francis	COMETS A	7	8	87.5
Sultani	COMETS C	10	12	83.3
Guimichev	OUTCASTS	5	6	83.3
S Fagan	COMETS A	5	6	83.3
Samuels	NAT WEST	5	6	83.3
To	MORPETH A	9	12	75.0
Brown	MORPETH A	10	15	66.7
Adesanya	COMETS B	8	12	66.7
Holohan	MORPETH A	6	9	66.7
Johnson	NAT WEST	6	9	66.7
Marott	MORPETH A	6	9	66.7
Siah	OUTCASTS	4	6	66.7
LeMilliere	CASTAWAYS	8	13	61.5
Crawford	PRO	7	12	58.3
Loveder	CASTAWAYS	6	11	54.5
Bhangoo	COMETS B	3	6	50.0
Muller	NAT WEST	3	6	50.0
Bispham	CASTAWAYS	3	8	37.5

Turner	PRO	3	12	25.0
Morley	COMETS B	2	9	22.2
Persaud	PRO	2	9	22.2
Islam	COMETS C	2	12	16.7
Alexander	MORPETH A	1	6	16.7
Coull	OUTCASTS	1	6	16.7
Sharma	COMETS C	1	9	11.1