

# LONDON BANKS AND CIVIL SERVICE TABLE TENNIS LEAGUE BULLETIN 14

AS AT 28 JANUARY 2018

	P	W	D	F	A	B	P
TREASURY A	13	10	1	105	25	39	144
CASTAWAYS	13	11	1	103	27	39	142
NAT WEST	13	9	2	84	46	39	123
MORPETH	13	8	2	74	56	39	113
EMPLOYMENT	13	5	3	61	69	39	100
PRO	13	4	2	60	70	39	99
INSURANCE	13	4	1	45	85	39	84
COMETS	11	4	1	48	62	33	81
SPARTA	12	3	1	44	76	36	80
OUTCASTS	12	3	1	41	79	36	77
TREASURY B	12	0	1	25	95	36	61

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\\_2017-2018/Division\\_One](https://www.tabletennis365.com/LondonBanksAndCivilService/Fixtures/Season_2017-2018/Division_One)

## COMMENTARY

### Week 17

Not sure what's going on with Sparta but once again they fielded only two players against Morpeth. Peter Tokely had a better night beating Brown and Sweeney and losing to Rob Chambers in four. Steve Hattrill couldn't quite keep up the previous week's form and contributed a single victory, over Sweeney. That said, he was involved in the best set of the night with Chambers, pushing him all the way before just losing out 11-9 in the fifth. The doubles was mighty close too and looked to be going Sparta's way as they took the first two ends. But Morpeth rallied and took the next two ends. Into the final end and it just wasn't to be for Sparta, finally losing 11-7. 100 points played in that contest. In last week's bulletin I was musing on whether Employment's Richard Oppenheim could put a dent in Castaways' title hopes. He lost the first two ends to Pete Harris but fought back to level the score and take it to a fifth. That end was also close but it was Harris who emerged the victor 11-9 after 107 hard fought points. It was to be a long night for Richard who then found himself in a marathon with Keld Jakslund. Richard came from two ends to one down to win the set at 11-9 in the fifth. A meagre 99 points in that one. The stage was set for Richard's set with Neil LeMilliere and another long contest was in prospect. Richard took the first end but then something changed and suddenly points were streaming Neil's way. Neil raced off the next three ends with scores that suggested a one-sided contest. Very odd! Harris and LeMilliere both won three but Keld Jakslund struggled all evening and lost all three. When it's not your night all the breaks seem against you and that was evidenced in Chris McKee's win over Jakslund by a heart-breaking 15-13 in the fifth after 106 points were played. 7-3 to Castaways but vital sets dropped. Last week I predicted the Nat West versus Treasury A result could be anywhere from 8-2 to 2-8 depending on player availability. Pretty wide bounds and so a safe bet you might have thought. To my astonishment the outcome fell outside that range! The result was an extraordinary 10-0 to Treasury A. Must have been influenced by team selection you might think, but both teams were at pretty much full strength. It was not just the magnitude of the victory that was stunning, it was also the way in which it was achieved. Nat West won just three singles ends all night long!! It's probably unfair to single out any individual in such a stellar team performance but Laikram Persaud won all his sets three straight, conceding an average of five points in each end. And this with Tony Catt and Chris Herbert in the opposition, both of whom have averages of 90.5%! I'm left speechless but what a hammer blow to Castaways title chances! Insurance helped their chances of avoiding relegation, doing the double over Outcasts, this time by a 7-3 scoreline. Ian Cranston was Insurance's star, winning all three. That performance really turned the match as both Jameson and

Roullier had a fighting chance of defeating him and, had they done so, the prospect of a win would have evaporated. The other key set was Roullier against Albert Francis, which proved to be very close but Roullier edged it 11-8 in the fifth. PRO did not win any of their first three matches in the first half and they repeated that in the second half. This week they went down 7-3 to a two-man Comets team where, to be honest, they were only in with a chance in one set – a narrow loss for Ronnie Turner to Steve Codrington 11-5 in the fifth. An undefeated night for Codrington and Steve Fagan and not much for PRO to be happy about.

Well, that shock win for Treasury A over Nat West, coupled with dropped sets by Castaways, means Treasury go top of the table, with a two point lead. I hardly dare to mention the deja vu of the last two seasons where Castaways were top at the halfway mark only to come up short. You can't win this Division with two good players, you need all three teammates contributing effectively. Pats on the back for Neil LeMilliere and Winston Wong, neither of whom is the star of their team, but both are contributing week after week to keep their teams at the top. This week's results have shaken up the averages and left Pete Harris on his own at the top. Catt, Herbert and Oppenheim all move down to make way for Persaud, Fung and Fagan.

In all my time as Divisional Secretary I cannot remember three successive weeks like we've just experienced where shock results have come thick and fast. Looking at the fixtures, next week looks like a fairly normal and predictable week but I'm saying nothing. Castaways play Comets and need to minimise any damage caused by Steve Fagan. Treasury A face Employment and will be looking to stretch their lead at the top. In the relegation battle, Insurance have crucial match with Sparta who are snapping at their heels and with a match in hand. Let's see what next week brings!

**RICHARD CAMPBELL**  
**DIVISIONAL SECRETARY**

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**AVERAGES (Qualification:  $\geq$  15 sets played)**

<b>Player</b>	<b>Team</b>	<b>Sets Won</b>	<b>Sets Played</b>	<b>Average (%)</b>
Harris	CASTAWAYS	22	24	91.7
Persaud	TREASURY A	25	28	89.3
McKee	CASTAWAYS	18	21	85.7
Fung	TREASURY A	21	25	84.0
Fagan	COMETS	26	32	81.3
Catt	NAT WEST	19	24	79.2
Herbert	NAT WEST	19	24	79.2
Wong	TREASURY A	22	28	78.6
LeMilliere	CASTAWAYS	28	38	73.7
Oppenheim	EMPLOYMENT	13	18	72.2
Bekele	MORPETH	14	21	66.7
Evans	SPARTA	17	26	65.4
Chambers	MORPETH	13	20	65.0
Blyuss	MORPETH	11	18	61.1
Brown	MORPETH	10	17	58.8
Crawford	PRO	17	29	58.6
Baylis	EMPLOYMENT	15	26	57.7
Mak	EMPLOYMENT	14	25	56.0
Jameson	OUTCASTS	10	18	55.6
Turner	PRO	18	34	52.9
Hattrill	SPARTA	8	17	47.1
Jones	NAT WEST	14	30	46.7
Coull	OUTCASTS	7	15	46.7

Macalister	OUTCASTS	7	15	46.7
Shore	TREASURY B	12	29	41.4
Roullier	OUTCASTS	11	27	40.7
Francis	INSURANCE	15	38	39.5
Cranstone	INSURANCE	13	35	37.1
Codrington	COMETS	7	20	35.0
Tokely	SPARTA	10	30	33.3
Buchanan	PRO	8	31	25.8
Velinor	INSURANCE	9	35	25.7
Colgan	TREASURY B	4	17	23.5
Gargrupe	COMETS	5	32	15.6
Gittens	TREASURY B	3	29	10.3
Okai	TREASURY B	1	21	4.8