

LONDON BANKS AND CIVIL SERVICE TABLE TENNIS LEAGUE BULLETIN 12

AS AT 15 JANUARY 2017

	P	W	D	F	A	B	P
CREDEX	11	9	0	89	21	33	122
CASTAWAYS	10	9	0	84	16	30	114
TREASURY A	11	8	0	72	38	33	105
NAT WEST	10	7	2	68	32	30	98
MORPETH	11	6	0	62	48	33	95
COMETS	11	6	1	58	52	30	88
PRO	11	4	2	49	61	33	82
EMPLOYMENT	9	2	1	34	56	27	61
BTB	11	1	0	23	87	33	56
TREASURY B	10	2	0	24	76	30	54
SEDCOPIANS	11	1	0	17	93	33	50

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

THINGS TO NOTE

- None

COMMENTARY

Week 16

First result of the half comes from that “must win” game for Old Seds and BTB. In the first half, Seds just pinched the match at 6-4. This was one of the rare occasions that Denis O’Riordan has been available to BTB. He opened with a key win over Rod Fitzgerald. Set three and Doug Lavis pulls off an equally key win over Geoff Waterstone (Doug had lost 11-9 in the fifth in the first half). Other key sets were Flavinda Xavier doing the double over Doug Lavis and Geoff Waterhouse beating Alec Fenn in four long ends. But as the match unfolded it became clear the difference between the two teams was the inclusion of O’Riordan who ended the night undefeated. BTB won the match 6-4, thereby reversing their first half loss. In the first half, Morpeth had given Credex a fright and only went down 6-4. This time Credex were taking no chances and put out their strongest team, which proved to be just too good for Morpeth. Sammy Bekele took an end off Adewale and off Persaud and posted Morpeth’s only win when beating Perry Fung 11-5 in the fifth after Perry had staged a fighting comeback from two ends down. Good win for Bekele but that single victory is all Morpeth came away with. In the first half, Employment had proved to be no match for Treasury A, losing 9-1. The reverse fixture proved to be very different. First sign that Employment weren’t going down without a fight came when Paul Baylis just lost to Winston Wong in four good ends, the final one going to Winston at 16-14. Then came the shock as Chris McKee absolutely blew away Winston Wong three straight! Never saw that coming as Winston beat Chris easily in the first half. The match score stood at 3-3 when Giuffrida faced McKee in what proved to be the best set of the night. Each of the first four ends was close and you just sensed the final end would go all the way. I guess if you look at the averages you’d conclude Giovanni was the underdog here but it was him who emerged victorious, taking the final end 11-9. That gave Giovanni a maximum and the Player of the Match Award and Treasury a narrow 6-4 win. In the pre-Christmas bulletin, when previewing the matches in the first week of the second half, I queried whether Comets might give Nat West a run for their money. When I saw the team line-ups, I was sure this was going to be the case but the match started brilliantly for Nat West. First, Gareth Jones player a blinder to beat Steve Codrington 12-10 in the fifth after 101 hard fought points (Gareth lost the first half contest). That was followed by a battle at the top of three averages as Steve Fagan faced Chris Herbert. Surprisingly the set didn’t last long as Chris ran away with it, three straight. Gareth then nearly pulled off an upset, taking the first two ends from Fagan but was eventually overhauled with Steve winning 11-9 in the fifth in the longest singles set of the night, 102 points. So near yet so far! With the match score at 4-4, Steve Codrington and Chris Herbert fought out another nail biter. Chris took the first two ends narrowly and Steve took the next two, equally narrowly. With

everyone predicting a deuce in the fifth, one of those “it’s a funny old game” moments occurred as Chris won point after point and Steve’s challenge evaporated at 11-3. That gave Nat West the edge going into the doubles, which was a real ding-dong, spanning 103 points and five ends. The winners? It was the two Steves at 12-10 in the fifth to salvage a draw. A good competitive match, four sets required a fifth end, and lots of close contests. Final match of the week saw PRO reduced to two players because of the weather and train strikes, which must have given their Treasury B opponents some cause for optimism. As sometimes happens when you’re a player down, Persaud and Turner put on an inspirational performance winning all but one of the six singles sets. Treasury’s lone success was Tony Dight beating Ronnie Turner in four close ends. David Shore was in with a shout against both Persaud and Turner but came away winless. The night ended with a hotly contested doubles where PRO came from two ends down to win the set at 11-9 in the fifth. A great result for PRO you’d have to conclude, and a disappointing one for Treasury B.

Next week Castaways open their second half campaign visiting Treasury B while Credex have a bye week. Match of the week sees Comets take on Treasury A in what must surely be a close contest. And PRO visit Nat West hoping to at least repeat their surprise draw in the first half.

RICHARD CAMPBELL
DIVISIONAL SECRETARY

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AVERAGES (Qualification: ≥ 13 sets played)

Player	Team	Sets Won	Sets Played	Average (%)
Herbert	NAT WEST	14	15	93.3
Harris	CASTAWAYS	21	23	91.3
Wong	TREASURY A	18	20	90.0
Fagan	COMETS	22	25	88.0
Nash	CASTAWAYS	13	15	86.7
LeMilliere	CASTAWAYS	19	23	82.6
P Fung	CREDEX	22	27	81.5
Guimichev	TREASURY A	12	15	80.0
Crawford	PRO	19	26	73.1
Samuels	NAT WEST	17	24	70.8
Nelson	CREDEX	13	19	68.4
McKee	EMPLOYMENT	10	15	66.7
Bekele	MORPETH	15	23	65.2
Jones	NAT WEST	13	20	65.0
Blyuss	MORPETH	14	22	63.6
Codrington	COMETS	15	26	57.7
Giuffrida	TREASURY A	11	20	55.0
Jermyn	EMPLOYMENT	8	15	53.3
Wu	CREDEX	8	15	53.3
Brown	MORPETH	7	14	50.0
Jones	TREASURY A	13	27	48.1
Turner	PRO	10	21	47.6
Persaud	PRO	9	21	42.9
Dight	TREASURY B	6	14	42.9
Mak	EMPLOYMENT	9	24	37.5
Shore	TREASURY B	9	26	34.6
Sinarain	COMETS	5	17	29.4
Buck	PRO	6	21	28.6
Waterhouse	BTB	8	29	27.6
Fitzgerald	SEDCOPIANS	6	24	25.0
Mason	SEDCOPIANS	3	15	20.0
Lavis	SEDCOPIANS	4	21	19.0
Xavier	BTB	5	28	17.9
Johansson	MORPETH	2	14	14.3
Okai	TREASURY B	2	17	11.8
Gittens	TREASURY B	2	18	11.1
Roberts	BTB	2	25	8.0
Fenn	SEDCOPIANS	1	18	5.6