

**LONDON BANKS AND CIVIL SERVICE TABLE TENNIS LEAGUE BULLETIN 19****AS AT 19 MARCH 2017**

	<b>P</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>P</b>
CASTAWAYS	17	16	0	148	22	51	199
CREDEX	17	15	0	146	24	51	197
NAT WEST	17	10	2	105	65	51	156
TREASURY A	17	12	0	104	66	51	155
MORPETH	17	10	0	99	71	51	150
PRO	18	6	3	87	93	54	141
EMPLOYMENT	18	9	1	87	93	51	138
COMETS	18	8	2	87	93	51	138
TREASURY B	17	3	0	42	128	51	93
BTB	17	1	0	25	145	51	76
SEDCOPIANS	17	1	0	20	150	51	71

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

**COMMENTARY****Week 25**

Employment's three game winning streak came crashing to an end against Castaways but not before they inflicted a heavy blow to Castaways' title hopes. First set of the evening and Richard Mak takes a shock two ends lead over Pat Caunt. Pat fights back to level the ends at 2-2. Fifth and final end and the two players match point for point until deuce arrives. It could be anyone's match but it was Richard Mak covering himself in glory by winning 12-10. Castaways' heads must have dropped because the title race is so close even losing one set is massive. To their credit, Castaways kept their cool and reeled off a procession of three straight wins to take the score from 0-1 to a 9-1 victory. Pete Harris didn't drop an end while Andy Nash dropped one end, to Anita Jermyn. Title rivals Credex made no mistakes against Treasury A and achieved the necessary whitewash. But they too were in danger of dropping a set as Winston Wong put up a really great fight in a seesaw battle against Perry Fung. If the Mak / Caunt set was close this was even closer. Five ends played, three ends concluding at deuce and 106 points in total. Who won? It was Perry by the very narrowest of margins 12-10 in the fifth. Treasury's only other highlights were both Wong and Giuffrida taking an end off Laikram Persaud. Nat West welcomed back both Chris Herbert and Les Samuels against Old Seds. Les last played in November and Chris last played in January. Chris opened against Rod Fitzgerald and immediately found himself two ends down. Chris took the third and was slowly playing himself back into form, taking the fourth and winning the set in the fifth. A close call. Les showed no signs of being ring rusty and rattled off all his sets three straight. Gareth Jones matched Les's performance but Chris had another wobble, against Doug Lavis, before eventually coming home 11-3 in the fifth. Nat West return to their usual team and to winning ways! I don't know if Morpeth are deliberately rotating their squad but they rarely play two successive matches with the same players. This week against Treasury B out went Terese Johansson and back came Rob Chambers for his first match in the second half. In the second set, Tony Dight beat Duncan Brown in four ends. Morpeth won the next five sets three straight. Set seven proved to be a real ding-dong battle involving Duncan and Bryan Gittens. Duncan took a two ends to one lead but Bryan came back strongly to take the fourth end 11-4. You just knew the fifth end would culminate at deuce and so it did. There was not a whisker between the two players but it was Duncan who emerged triumphant at 12-10 in the fifth. Bad luck Bryan! The final match of the week saw Comets face PRO. Last week I said this would be a good match. The result was a draw, which you might have predicted but the chances of you predicting how that came about are more than 100 to 1. First set was Steve Fagan against John Crawford. It's been a good week for close contests and this proved to be another. John won the first end and Steve the next two, both ending 12-10. The fourth end was again close but went John's way at 11-9. The fifth end followed the same trend, progressing neck and neck until Steve just pinches it 11-9 in the fifth. 104 points played in that set. Ronnie Turner and Steve Codrington sit next to each other in the averages so another close set was in prospect. Steve took the first end but Ronnie fought back to take the three ends and the victory. You might have felt all that was predictable but then the match went seriously off the script. First, George Buck defied the averages to beat Gary Defroand in four close ends (George lost three straight in the first half). The next set also proved the averages a lie when Steve Codrington brushed John Crawford away three straight. Fagan then beat

Buck and Turner beat Defroand to make the match score 3-3. Set seven proved to be a huge upset win for George Buck over Steve Codrington, George covering himself in glory. If that was unexpected, who would have predicted that Gary Defroand was about to get his only win of the evening – against John Crawford! That meant John left the night winless for the first time since 8 February 2016. Comets went into the doubles leading 5-4 but justice was done as PRO won the set to level the match. Very good match full of unexpected twists and turns.

All in all, one of the best weeks of the season for close finishes and unpredictable outcomes. Lady Luck favoured Credex over Castaways in the close contests and Castaways' lead at the top is down to two points. Next week the lead may be reduced still further as Castaways have a tricky fixture against Comets. Two other interesting fixtures see Nat West pitted against Morpeth and Treasury B up against Sedcopians again. It's building to a close!

**RICHARD CAMPBELL  
DIVISIONAL SECRETARY**

Issued: 19/03/2017

**AVERAGES (Qualification:  $\geq 21$  sets played)**

<b>Player</b>	<b>Team</b>	<b>Sets Won</b>	<b>Sets Played</b>	<b>Average (%)</b>
Adewale	CREDEX	24	24	100.0
Harris	CASTAWAYS	39	41	95.1
Jaksland	CASTAWAYS	19	21	90.5
Nash	CASTAWAYS	24	27	88.9
Persaud	CREDEX	23	26	88.5
Herbert	NAT WEST	18	21	85.7
P Fung	CREDEX	38	45	84.4
Fagan	COMETS	31	37	83.8
LeMilliere	CASTAWAYS	29	35	82.9
Wong	TREASURY A	23	29	79.3
Bekele	MORPETH	23	31	74.2
Samuels	NAT WEST	20	27	74.1
Nelson	CREDEX	16	22	72.7
Guimichev	TREASURY A	15	21	71.4
Blyuss	MORPETH	22	33	66.7
Crawford	PRO	29	44	65.9
Baylis	EMPLOYMENT	17	26	65.4
McKee	EMPLOYMENT	17	30	56.7
Persaud	PRO	20	36	55.6
Codrington	COMETS	26	47	55.3
Turner	PRO	19	36	52.8
Giuffrida	TREASURY A	20	38	52.6
Jones	TREASURY A	22	42	52.4
Brown	MORPETH	15	31	48.4
Jermyn	EMPLOYMENT	14	29	48.3
Mak	EMPLOYMENT	23	48	47.9
Jones	NAT WEST	19	40	47.5
Dight	TREASURY B	15	32	46.9
Shore	TREASURY B	13	41	31.7
Buck	PRO	9	33	27.3
Sinarain	COMETS	7	29	24.1
Johansson	MORPETH	5	23	21.7
Lavis	SEDCOPIANS	6	30	20.0

Fitzgerald	SEDCOPIANS	7	36	19.4
Waterhouse	BTB	8	47	17.0
Mason	SEDCOPIANS	3	24	12.5
Xavier	BTB	5	45	11.1
Okai	TREASURY B	2	26	7.7
Gittens	TREASURY B	2	33	6.1
Roberts	BTB	2	39	5.1
Fenn	SEDCOPIANS	1	24	4.2