

# LONDON BANKS AND CIVIL SERVICE TABLE TENNIS LEAGUE BULLETIN 10

AS AT 8 DECEMBER 2019

|            | <b>P</b> | <b>W</b> | <b>D</b> | <b>F</b> | <b>A</b> | <b>B</b> | <b>P</b> |
|------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| COMETS     | 9        | 8        | 1        | 75       | 15       | 27       | 102      |
| CASTAWAYS  | 9        | 6        | 3        | 68       | 22       | 27       | 95       |
| NAT WEST   | 9        | 7        | 1        | 58       | 32       | 27       | 85       |
| MORPETH A  | 8        | 6        | 1        | 56       | 24       | 24       | 80       |
| EMPLOYMENT | 9        | 5        | 0        | 51       | 39       | 27       | 78       |
| GOOD KARMA | 9        | 3        | 1        | 39       | 51       | 27       | 66       |
| MORPETH C  | 9        | 2        | 0        | 36       | 54       | 27       | 63       |
| PRO        | 8        | 3        | 0        | 31       | 49       | 24       | 55       |
| SPARTA     | 9        | 2        | 0        | 28       | 62       | 27       | 55       |
| TREASURY B | 9        | 1        | 1        | 23       | 67       | 27       | 50       |
| OUTCASTS   | 8        | 1        | 0        | 15       | 65       | 24       | 39       |

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\\_2019-2020/Division\\_One](https://www.tabletennis365.com/LondonBanksAndCivilService/Fixtures/Season_2019-2020/Division_One)
- ✓ This week Outcasts postponed against PRO

## COMMENTARY

### Week 10

First match of the week features the relegation battle between Treasury and Sparta. Last week I speculated on which players would be involved in this match. It emerged Sparta turned out its strongest team – Tokely, Evans, Loveder - and Treasury fielded a strong team too – Dight, Shore and Shavila. First blood to Treasury as Tony Dight gets the better of Peter Tokely in four ends. Next up comes David Evans for only his fourth appearance this season and he took on David Shore. The contest didn't last long, Evans winning three straight and comfortably. By the end of the night that 1-0 to Treasury scoreline turned into a 1-9 result! Sparta ran off nine successive wins and I must say with some swagger. Only two singles' sets went past the third end. Both ended in four and both involved Tony Dight. David Evan was in good form winning all his sets three straight and conceding a miserly 49 points all night. Three wins also for Mike Loveder and two from Peter Tokely. The best set of the night was the doubles where Sparta led after three ends, Treasury took the fourth end and put up quite a battle in the final end before losing it 11-7. A collective sigh of relief from Sparta for a big win that takes them above Treasury and out of the relegation placings. Employment are having a successful season but this week they came up against Nat West. For Nat West, Chris Herbert missed his first match of the season and Tony Catt replaced him. The first four sets all finished three straight, three of them going to Nat West. The exception was Chris McKee beating Gareth Jones. The fifth set went to four ends. A good performance from Paul Baylis as he shared the first two ends with Tony Catt but then his challenge evaporated as Tony took the third and fourth ends, conceding just six points in so doing. Set seven was the best of the night as Chris McKee led Tony Catt by two ends to one. Chris nearly finished it in the fourth end but got squeezed out 17-15. The fifth was looking to be tight but Chris accelerated away and won it 11-4! 105 points played in that contest (how few sets this season have gone past the 100 point benchmark!). Arguably one of the best wins in the first half! Oddly, hitherto Chris has had a quiet season and has been regularly outperformed by Paul Baylis. A good win and unexpected too. That was the highspot for Employment as Nat West ran out the winners by 7-3, three from Penrose, two from Catt and one from Jones plus the doubles. That was Employment's worst loss of the season since their opening day 8-2 hammering by Morpeth A and, to be honest, they were never in this match. Eight sets ended three straight and Nat West won six of them. This season Karma haven't been badly beaten by anyone but that came to an abrupt halt in their fixture with Castaways. Terry McKee made his first appearance for Castaways this season and was in

commanding form winning all three without dropping an end. Neil LeMilliere has on a bit of a lean streak these last few weeks but his wins were just as emphatic as McKee's – just 45 points lost all evening. Uncharacteristically, it was the usually dependable Pete Harris who featured in the night's one hotly contested set, finding himself two ends to one down to Campbell McKellar. Pete took the fourth set 11-7 and then raised his game to win the deciding set 11-5. A 10-0 victory for Castaways and Karma's first whitewash of the season. The big match this week was Morpeth A against Comets. When the names went down on the card – Zhao, Persaud and Francis against Ji, Chambers and Blyuss – it was clear it would require a Herculean performance from Morpeth to come away with much. The first set of the night was one of the best sets as Ian Francis and Rob Chambers fought out five ends, each of which was won by a two-point margin. Chambers was ahead after three ends but Francis came back to take the fourth end narrowly. The fifth end saw Francis reach match point at 10-6 only for Rob to save point after point and claw it back to 10-10. The rallies went on and on and only at 16-14 was a two point separation achieved. In the battle of nerves it was Ian who came out on top! 116 points played – the longest set of the season so far! But it was the third set that I would have liked to have seen. This pitted Jane Ji against Laikram Persaud. Persaud grinds you down and you've got to play so many good points to beat him. Jane took the first end 11-8 but soon found herself two ends to one down. She battled on to take the fourth set and then, at just the right moment, hit a purple patch in the final end to come home 11-6 in front. A good set and a good win! Meanwhile, Yiji Zhao was putting in her usual unbeatable performance brushing aside Oleg Blyuss and Rob Chambers in three. She then faced Jane Ji who promptly won the first end from her – the first end Yiji has lost in two seasons in this Division. Was an upset on the cards? The answer was an emphatic “no” as Yiji raced away with the next three ends with scores of 6, 2, and 7. A class act! So, 8-2 to Comets and another hurdle overcome in their bid for the title.

Comets lead at the top is now seven points. Morpeth A lose ground with their loss to Comets and are tucked in behind Nat West though with a match in hand. Sparta and Treasury have opened a gap on Outcasts as Outcasts postponed this week. Only two players qualifying for the averages remain unbeaten. Next week looks like a quiet week for fixtures. Morpeth C versus Sparta looks the most interesting. Hard to see any upset performances seem likely. That will take us to the halfway point in the season and the Xmas break.

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**DIVISIONAL SECRETARY**

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**AVERAGES (Qualification: ≥9 sets played)**

| <b>Player</b> | <b>Team</b> | <b>Sets Won</b> | <b>Sets Played</b> | <b>Average (%)</b> |
|---------------|-------------|-----------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Fung          | COMETS      | 14              | 14                 | 100.0              |
| Bekele        | MORPETH A   | 9               | 9                  | 100.0              |
| Harris        | CASTAWAYS   | 23              | 24                 | 95.8               |
| Persaud       | COMETS      | 14              | 15                 | 93.3               |
| Penrose       | NAT WEST    | 11              | 12                 | 91.7               |
| Killip        | EMPLOYMENT  | 10              | 11                 | 90.9               |
| Ji            | MORPETH A   | 16              | 18                 | 88.9               |
| Catt          | NAT WEST    | 10              | 12                 | 83.3               |
| Herbert       | NAT WEST    | 19              | 24                 | 79.2               |
| Chambers      | MORPETH A   | 14              | 18                 | 77.8               |
| Mencer        | GOOD KARMA  | 7               | 9                  | 77.8               |
| Francis       | COMETS      | 11              | 15                 | 73.3               |
| LeMilliere    | CASTAWAYS   | 17              | 24                 | 70.8               |
| Fagan         | COMETS      | 7               | 10                 | 70.0               |
| Bispham       | CASTAWAYS   | 8               | 12                 | 66.7               |
| Baylis        | EMPLOYMENT  | 10              | 16                 | 62.5               |
| Alnak         | MORPETH C   | 7               | 12                 | 58.3               |
| Brown         | MORPETH A   | 5               | 9                  | 55.6               |

|            |            |    |    |      |
|------------|------------|----|----|------|
| Caunt      | CASTAWAYS  | 5  | 9  | 55.6 |
| Greenberg  | GOOD KARMA | 6  | 11 | 54.5 |
| Sanders    | GOOD KARMA | 7  | 13 | 53.8 |
| Crawford   | PRO        | 11 | 21 | 52.4 |
| Evans      | SPARTA     | 6  | 12 | 50.0 |
| Guimichev  | TREASURY B | 6  | 12 | 50.0 |
| Loveder    | SPARTA     | 6  | 12 | 50.0 |
| Dight      | TREASURY B | 7  | 15 | 46.7 |
| Robertson  | MORPETH C  | 7  | 15 | 46.7 |
| Coull      | OUTCASTS   | 4  | 9  | 44.4 |
| Shore      | TREASURY B | 4  | 9  | 44.4 |
| Persaud    | PRO        | 6  | 14 | 42.9 |
| McKee      | EMPLOYMENT | 6  | 15 | 40.0 |
| Mak        | EMPLOYMENT | 5  | 13 | 38.5 |
| Jones      | NAT WEST   | 9  | 24 | 37.5 |
| Tokely     | SPARTA     | 9  | 24 | 37.5 |
| Buck       | PRO        | 6  | 18 | 33.3 |
| Jameson    | OUTCASTS   | 6  | 18 | 33.3 |
| Nicholls   | MORPETH C  | 6  | 18 | 33.3 |
| Shilo      | MORPETH C  | 5  | 15 | 33.3 |
| Buchanan   | PRO        | 4  | 14 | 28.6 |
| Blyuss     | MORPETH A  | 4  | 15 | 26.7 |
| Hattrill   | SPARTA     | 4  | 18 | 22.2 |
| McKellar   | GOOD KARMA | 2  | 9  | 22.2 |
| Zhao       | GOOD KARMA | 3  | 14 | 21.4 |
| Bulvicius  | MORPETH C  | 2  | 12 | 16.7 |
| Roullier   | OUTCASTS   | 2  | 15 | 13.3 |
| Gittens    | TREASURY B | 1  | 12 | 8.3  |
| Macalister | OUTCASTS   | 1  | 15 | 6.7  |