

AS AT 9 FEBRUARY 2016

	P	W	D	F	A	B	P
CREDEX	14	12	0	111	29	42	153
NAT WEST	13	9	1	94	36	39	133
CASTAWAYS	12	11	1	96	24	36	132
TREASURY A	13	8	0	67	62	39	106
PRO	14	5	2	62	78	42	104
JOOLA	13	6	1	62	68	39	101
COMETS	14	3	0	53	87	42	95
EMPLOYMENT	12	4	1	52	67	36	88
TREASURY B	13	2	2	31	99	39	70
OUTCASTS	12	0	2	21	99	36	57

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

**THINGS TO NOTE**

- ☑ From the middle of February, Rule 19 comes into force. The rule states that a player who has not played before the sixth-from-last scheduled match in the fixture list shall not be eligible to take part in that and subsequent matches without prior permission of the Divisional Secretary. In other words, from that point, you will need my agreement **in advance** to play a new player.

**COMMENTARY**

Week 18

And an interesting week in prospect, beginning with Credex versus Nat West. This was the shock result of the first half when Nat West pulled off an unexpected victory. Could they do it again? Nat West started well with Tony Catt just beating Laikram Persaud by 11-9 in the fifth. Next set saw Perry Fung bring Chris Herbert's winning streak to an end in dominant fashion, conceding just 18 points in three ends. The "longest winning streak" mantle passes to Castaways' Pete Harris for 12 successive wins. Set three brought together two players who didn't play in the first half: Ade Adewale and Chris Penrose. Chris is a new name to me and to the League. Hard to tell much from his first set as Ade blew him away three straight (but bear in mind that Ade is ranked 84 in England). Chris showed what he is capable of beating Perry Fung in his next set (very close, that one) and Laikram Persaud comfortably in his final set. Other than that, things weren't going Nat West's way: Herbert lost all three and Catt could not add to his opening victory. The doubles proved to be the closest set of the night. A see saw contest that required all five ends and a nerve jangling win for Nat West at 13-11 in the final end. That resulted in a 6-4 win for Credex, exactly reversing the first half outcome. That result puts the pressure back on Castaways who visited Joola. The match started well for Castaways winning the first two sets with ease. Set three saw a setback for Castaways as Rob Chambers did the double over Neil LeMilliere in four ends (the first half victory took five ends). Things then swung back Castaways' way as they ran off the next five sets. Little of note in those sets except Rob Chambers winning an end off Keld Jakslund by 19-17 to tie the record for the season's longest set (the second time this season Rob's been involved in a 19-17 set). Set 9 was one of those "how did that happen" moments when Joola's Oleg Blyus brushed aside Jakslund three straight with ease. You'd have got long odds for that result at the bookies! So, two sets dropped by Castaways who I suspect would have hoped to do better. Comets only fielded two players against Employment and, first set of the match, Employment's Paul Baylis puts in a stellar performance to defeat Steve Fagan. This was a close contest that ended 11-9 in the fifth to Paul. Good win! That puts Employment 4-0 up. So, Employment being Employment, what happens next? The answer is they didn't win another set and extraordinarily lost the match 6-4 from that 4-0 start!! Man of the match was Comets' Steve Coddington who won all three. Hats off to Steve for a superlative performance. Anita Jermyn fell in three ends, Baylis fell in four and Chris McKee fell in five ends. Bet Steve went home happy! This has been a good season for teams fielding all three players but the last match of the week involved another two-player team. This time it was PRO who were one short against Treasury B. No

Employment antics here as this match played out as you'd imagine. For Treasury B, Tony Dight and David Shore both won their two sets. For PRO, Turner and Buck beat John Colgan and PRO perplexingly won the doubles but that was it. A 7-3 result for Treasury B – their first match win of the season!

#### Week19

One match short this week as Employment postponed against Treasury B. Credex visit Treasury A, Castaways have a “banana skin” fixture against Comets, plus Nat West hope to keep up their challenge, entertaining PRO. First result of the week shows Credex whitewashing Treasury A, thereby going one better than their 9-1 first half result. For Treasury, Loveder and Jones both took an end off Persaud and Loveder also took an end off Adewale. The individual set scores don't suggest it was all one-way traffic but Treasury were just outgunned. Comets' Steve Fagan won three against Castaways in the first half, and with Steve Codrington in form, this was a potentially tricky fixture for Castaways. The sets were played out of order due to late arrivals and Steve Fagan played two consecutive sets with no warm up as no teammates present. Perhaps that explains why Steve lost both, first to Pat Caunt and then to Neil LeMilliere. Steve Codrington had to go straight on against Andy Nash and just never got going. This potentially close contest rapidly turned into one-way traffic as Castaways piled on the pressure to achieve a 9-1 victory. Only one positive thing for Comets – Codrington registering a really good win over Caunt. An out of sorts Steve Fagan emerged winless for the first time this season (and, I believe, the first time ever in this League). Whatever the match circumstances, a good outcome for Castaways that they can be pleased with. No Chris Herbert or Gareth Jones for Nat West so Mike Hughes is brought in as a reserve against PRO. This is the sort of fixture that demonstrates how Nat West have gone up a notch this season. They won the match 9-1 with Catt and Samuels both getting all three. Mike Hughes proved to be a more than adequate reserve, picking up two wins and losing to Marco Yu. Closest set of the night was Mike's defeat of John Crawford at 11-8 in the fifth. A new record was created as Samuels and Crawford played out the longest single end of the season culminating at 20-18 to Les!

This week is the mid-half break so no more matches. Normal business resumes on 15 February with a week of fixtures where I suspect I'll have to search hard to find any upsets or close contests.

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

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**AVERAGES (Qualification: ≥ 16 sets played)**

<b>Player</b>	<b>Team</b>	<b>Sets Won</b>	<b>Sets Played</b>	<b>Average (%)</b>
Harris	CASTAWAYS	27	30	90.0
P. Fung	CREDEX	30	36	83.3
Samuels	NAT WEST	29	36	80.6
Herbert	NAT WEST	19	24	79.2
Persaud	CREDEX	21	27	77.8
D. Fung	CREDEX	16	21	76.2
Nash	CASTAWAYS	16	21	76.2
Wong	TREASURY A	22	30	73.3
Fagan	COMETS	30	42	71.4
LeMilliere	CASTAWAYS	15	21	71.4
Persaud	PRO	15	21	71.4
Catt	NAT WEST	17	24	70.8
Berkenkamp	CREDEX	12	18	66.7
Bekele	JOOLA	17	26	65.4
McKee	EMPLOYMENT	14	23	60.9
Baylis	EMPLOYMENT	15	26	57.7
Jones	NAT WEST	15	27	55.6
Blyuss	JOOLA	10	18	55.6
Turner	PRO	19	36	52.8
Crawford	PRO	17	33	51.5
Giuffrida	TREASURY A	13	27	48.1
Mak	EMPLOYMENT	13	27	48.1
Shore	TREASURY B	11	23	47.8
Chambers	JOOLA	10	21	47.6
Jones	TREASURY A	15	36	41.7
Codrington	COMETS	10	24	41.7
Dight	TREASURY B	11	34	32.4
Roulier	OUTCASTS	7	30	23.3
Jameson	OUTCASTS	5	27	18.5
Johansson	JOOLA	1	18	5.6
Buck	PRO	1	24	4.2