

# LONDON BANKS AND CIVIL SERVICE TABLE TENNIS LEAGUE BULLETIN 22

AS AT 25 MARCH 2018

|            | <b>P</b> | <b>W</b> | <b>D</b> | <b>F</b> | <b>A</b> | <b>B</b> | <b>P</b> |
|------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| TREASURY A | 20       | 17       | 1        | 170      | 30       | 60       | 230      |
| CASTAWAYS  | 19       | 15       | 2        | 145      | 45       | 57       | 202      |
| NAT WEST   | 20       | 14       | 3        | 132      | 68       | 60       | 192      |
| MORPETH    | 19       | 13       | 3        | 116      | 74       | 57       | 173      |
| EMPLOYMENT | 19       | 9        | 3        | 96       | 94       | 57       | 153      |
| PRO        | 19       | 7        | 2        | 91       | 99       | 57       | 148      |
| COMETS     | 19       | 7        | 1        | 80       | 110      | 57       | 137      |
| INSURANCE  | 20       | 5        | 2        | 68       | 132      | 60       | 128      |
| SPARTA     | 19       | 5        | 1        | 68       | 122      | 57       | 125      |
| OUTCASTS   | 18       | 3        | 1        | 56       | 124      | 54       | 110      |
| TREASURY B | 20       | 1        | 1        | 38       | 162      | 60       | 98       |

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 25

Outcasts versus Sparta always looked to be a close match and so it proved to be. Sparta started well with wins for Steve Hattrill over Simon Jameson and Peter Tokely over Andrew Macalister (both in four ends). Eddie Roullier then picked up a real surprise win over Dave Evans, who is 16 places above him in the averages. Key to that win was playing the deuce points well – Eddie won two ends after long deuce battles. Macalister then beat Tokely but that triggered a run of three wins for Sparta to put them 5-2 up in the match. Closest of those was Roullier beating Tokely after five long ends. Outcasts fought back to 4-5, pulling off two successive five-end wins – Roullier over Tokely and Jameson over Hattrill. The doubles was equally hard fought, Outcasts going two ends up before Sparta levelled it at two ends all. The final end finished dramatically as Outcasts came back from 10-3 down in the fifth to level it at 10-10, only to lose 10-12! 6-4 in Sparta's favour, with four sets going the distance and the remaining six sets all requiring four ends to resolve. Good match and the first time this season that all six players scored at least one victory! In marked contrast, Treasury A versus Treasury B was a one-sided affair. The A team brought in Mike Loveder for his first match since mid-January and he duly won three but he struggled against David Shore, who took an end off him. Seven other singles sets concluded three straight before Loveder and Bryan Gittens fought out a marathon battle. Bryan was two ends to one up but lost the fourth end. The final end was mighty close but the jinx that seems to come with that particular scenario struck again and Bryan lost out by 14-12. Very frustrating and disappointing after 94 points had been played! Three each for Perry Fung and Laikram Persaud, leaving Laikram on an unbeaten streak of 36 successive victories, stretching back to mid-November. Comets against Nat West began with a real nail biter between Steve Codrington and Chris Herbert. Steve won the first two ends and at 10-10 in the third an upset was on the cards. Chris held his nerve and pinched that end 13-11. That seemed to mark a turning point as Chris took the fourth end comfortably. Well, you'll have spotted that puts Steve in the "jinx scenario" and so it was as Chris cantered home 11-7 to take the set. The jinx repeated in set two as Gareth Jones played well to lead Steve Fagan by two ends to one before losing the fourth 11-9 and the fifth end 11-7. Those two sets typified the rest of the match with close finishes all over the place and just two sets ending three straight. Pick of the close sets was Herbert against Fagan, a clash at the top of the averages that was level at two sets all before a long and tense fifth end concluded 11-9 in Chris's favour. That was pretty much a perfect replay of Chris's win over Steve in the first half. And a frustrating night for Gareth Jones ended with disappointment again, losing 11-9 in the fifth to Codrington, having been two ends to one up

again. Mike Hughes was playing number three for Nat West and put up a good fight in all his sets, managing one win, over Greg Gargrupe. Nat West were 5-4 up going into the doubles and the night ended with yet another tight contest. The set was deadlocked at two ends all before Nat West ran away with the final end 11-6 to pull off the victory. Another good match! Over the years PRO have proved to be a good mid-table team and you can see why they're not in the relegation zone from their 8-2 win over Insurance. John Crawford has had a good run of form recently and won eight of his last nine encounters. He moved that statistic up to 11 out of 12 after this match with the perfect three straight maximum. It looked fairly easy going though he did win one end against Albert Francis from 0-5 down! Ronnie Turner also won three but he did it the hard way. He had long sets against Francis and John Velinor but managed to win both in the fifth end. Insurance had reserve Paul Brady playing and he took an end off Turner before covering himself in glory with a win over George Buck. Albert Francis did the same but that was it for Insurance. And just to end their scheduled season on a high note, PRO won the doubles and so have the strange distinction of losing their first four doubles of the season and winning their last four doubles! In a week of good matches Castaways against Morpeth looked to be another hard fought contest. Castaways had won the first half fixture 9-1 – arguably their best team performance of the season. This time Morpeth brought a strong team against them: Bekele, Chambers and Blyuss. First set and Morpeth show they mean business as Sammy Bekele takes out Keld Jakslund in five ends 11-8 in the fifth after 93 points. More good news for Morpeth in set three with Rob Chambers winning a seesaw contest against Neil LeMilliere in four close ends. I thought Bekele would trouble Pete Harris but not long after Sammy stood up he sat down again having lost three straight and won a meagre 15 points. Rob Chambers scored an impressive three straight win over Jakslund and for a minute Castaways looked like losing their third match of the season. Once again it was Pete Harris to the rescue. I have much admiration for the way he has played this season – he has been consistently rock solid - and he underlined that again in beating Chambers in four ends. He lost just three sets all season – to Catt, Herbert and Persaud – and justifiably tops the averages at the end of the scheduled season. Castaways were 5-4 up with just the doubles to play and they have a slightly superior doubles average. Predictably, the set reached two ends all but in the fifth Morpeth jumped out to a 5-0 lead, which proved just too much for Castaways who went down 11-5. So, an honourable draw is the outcome. That was the tenth match drawn this season, two more than in 2016-17. Every team experienced at least one draw. That's the first time that's happened since the 2008-09 season when the Divisional champions were – you guessed it – Treasury A!

That's the end of the scheduled season but there are four postponed matches left to play. They will be played over the next two or three weeks around the Easter break. I'll report those results and take a look back at the season in the final bulletin, issued towards the end of April.

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

Issued: 27/03/2018

**AVERAGES (Qualification: ≥19 sets played)**

| <b>Player</b> | <b>Team</b> | <b>Sets Won</b> | <b>Sets Played</b> | <b>Average (%)</b> |
|---------------|-------------|-----------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Harris        | CASTAWAYS   | 36              | 39                 | 92.3               |
| Persaud       | TREASURY A  | 43              | 47                 | 91.5               |
| Fung          | TREASURY A  | 39              | 44                 | 88.6               |
| Wong          | TREASURY A  | 30              | 37                 | 81.1               |
| Herbert       | NAT WEST    | 34              | 42                 | 81.0               |
| Fagan         | COMETS      | 42              | 52                 | 80.8               |
| Oppenheim     | EMPLOYMENT  | 29              | 36                 | 80.6               |
| McKee         | CASTAWAYS   | 24              | 30                 | 80.0               |
| Catt          | NAT WEST    | 19              | 24                 | 79.2               |
| Chambers      | MORPETH     | 24              | 34                 | 70.6               |
| Bekele        | MORPETH     | 21              | 30                 | 70.0               |
| LeMilliere    | CASTAWAYS   | 34              | 50                 | 68.0               |
| Evans         | SPARTA      | 25              | 38                 | 65.8               |

|            |            |    |    |      |
|------------|------------|----|----|------|
| Jaksland   | CASTAWAYS  | 15 | 23 | 65.2 |
| Brown      | MORPETH    | 13 | 20 | 65.0 |
| Crawford   | PRO        | 28 | 44 | 63.6 |
| Baylis     | EMPLOYMENT | 21 | 35 | 60.0 |
| Blyuss     | MORPETH    | 18 | 30 | 60.0 |
| Turner     | PRO        | 28 | 52 | 53.8 |
| Jones      | NAT WEST   | 27 | 51 | 52.9 |
| Mak        | EMPLOYMENT | 16 | 31 | 51.6 |
| Jameson    | OUTCASTS   | 13 | 27 | 48.1 |
| Hattrill   | SPARTA     | 14 | 31 | 45.2 |
| Johansson  | MORPETH    | 9  | 20 | 45.0 |
| Coull      | OUTCASTS   | 10 | 24 | 41.7 |
| Francis    | INSURANCE  | 23 | 57 | 40.4 |
| Cranstone  | INSURANCE  | 18 | 48 | 37.5 |
| Macalister | OUTCASTS   | 11 | 30 | 36.7 |
| Roullier   | OUTCASTS   | 14 | 39 | 35.9 |
| Shore      | TREASURY B | 17 | 49 | 34.7 |
| Tokely     | SPARTA     | 16 | 47 | 34.0 |
| Codrington | COMETS     | 9  | 29 | 31.0 |
| Sweeney    | MORPETH    | 5  | 19 | 26.3 |
| Buchanan   | PRO        | 9  | 40 | 22.5 |
| Velinor    | INSURANCE  | 11 | 54 | 20.4 |
| Gargrupe   | COMETS     | 10 | 55 | 18.2 |
| Colgan     | TREASURY B | 4  | 23 | 17.4 |
| Gittens    | TREASURY B | 5  | 46 | 10.9 |
| Okai       | TREASURY B | 4  | 44 | 9.1  |
| Dos Santos | EMPLOYMENT | 1  | 20 | 5.0  |