



December 2021

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Congratulations all round on a pretty good first half-season, played come what may!

I hope you are full of energy for the second half, which we'll run as far as the govt and TTE allow - see web site.

Let's all give a shout for Mark Banks, who is down with COVID. And for Nigel Maltby, who has done a great Div 1 piece in his absence.

Stay healthy! (COVID is still galloping in the Reading area*.) **Happy Christmas!**

Derek Wavell





Notes from our Chairman

Greetings to you all for Christmas.

When I first came on the committee back in 1967 we had 9 divisions and 40 clubs and they included 16 firm teams.

In our Jubilee year in 1973 we had 14 divisions and 59 clubs with 26 firm teams.

It makes me sad that we are down to 4 divisions and 11 clubs. With no firm teams now going.

I shudder to think what would happen if



Kingfisher, O.L.O.P or Sonning Common & P were not to exist..

Over many years we tried to have our own table tennis premises but sadly mainly due to the cost failed.

In these trying times the committee has done very well for us all to enjoy our evening of T T this season so on behalf of you all I thank them.

To finish I would like to wish you and your families a HEALTHY 2022.

All the best and take care

Derek

Nigel's Notes

I'm sure everyone is continuing to enjoy their table tennis, I know I am. Win, lose or draw(!?) it's still great to be playing.

On the League front, matches in most divisions are running to schedule, with the occasional exception. In division 1 Kingfisher 'A' are looking a good bet for the title, but their strong squad still have to face an almost equally strong outfit in Our Lady of Peace 'A' early in the new year. OLOP will need to win that one handsomely if they are to stand a chance. In division 2 it's a very close contest with Sonning Sports 'A', Reading FC 'A' and Our Lady of Peace 'B' the main contenders for the two promotion places. Pangbourne WMC lead division 3 with Tilehurst RBL 'B', Kingfisher 'I' and OLOP 'D' battling for the runners up spot, while in division 4 it's pretty



much a 5 or 6 horse race in the battle for the top two.

The Individual Handicap and Reading Closed Championships have been booked for the Cippenham club in Slough. Get your entry in quickly for the **individual Handicap** with the competition date set for **Saturday 8th January 2022**. see the website for details on how to enter. The **Reading Closed Junior** event will take place on **Sunday 20th February 2022**, while the Reading Closed Senior & Veteran **events will take place on Sunday 6th March 2022**.

In the meantime enjoy getting out there and playing your matches.

Nigel Maltby (RDTTA Secretary)





DIVISION ONE

by Nigel Maltby

With Mark Banks unwell at the moment I have stepped into the breach to bring you a brief summary of where we are in division 1. Best wishes to Mark for a speedy recovery.

As it stands Kingfisher 'A' with their awesome squad have the title within their grasp and it would take a spectacular turn around in fortunes for Our Lady of Peace 'A' to overhaul them. Any slim chance they may have must start with a comprehensive win against their rivals in early January. With Hari on 22 wins from 22, Martin 9 from 9 and Darren 19 from 20 and still with Ross Saxby and Dmitry to call on Kingfisher look pretty unbeatable. Sonning Common & Peppard 'A' have crept almost unnoticed into 3rd place after a slow start to the season. Just 2 points separate the next four teams. Kingfisher 'B' are joint 4th alongside Kingfisher 'D', who ended the first half of the season in style by whopping my SC&P 'B' team 8-2 – They will miss Jordan Huang in the 2nd half as he moves up to Manchester, but I believe they have a more than adequate replacement lined up.



couple of sets, Brian Meheux losing 11-3 4-11 11-8 5-11 10-12 to Dmitry Karkhamov and young Jamie Barlow also losing out to Dmitry in an incredibly close tussle 11-9 6-11 11-6 8-11 19-21 with some outstanding play from both players. Mo Cook and Steve Murgatroyd both got hat tricks as second placed Our Lady of Peace 'A' beat Sonning Common & Peppard 'A' 8 - 2.

In-form Ed Lush got a maximum as Sonning Common & Peppard 'C' beat Tilehurst British Legion 'A' 7 - 3, Matt Stone and Matt Isherwood picking up doubles. Ed won all his matches 3-straight. Kingfisher 'D' were 7 - 3 winners at Tidmarsh 'A' thanks to a Graham Mendick treble and a good double from Cath Venning, Cath winning a close match with Lee Calcutt 8-11 12-14 11-9 14-12 13-11.

Week 8

Kingfisher 'C' were 6 - 4 winners at Sonning Common & Peppard 'B' with Shreesh Gupte and Daniel McTiernan both winning twice. Jamie Barlow got a maximum and Nigel Maltby managed a single for Sonning Common after he beat Adrian Cretu 11-7 11-5 3-11 11-8 in the final set of the night. Kingfisher 'B' moved up the table after an 8 - 2 win against Tidmarsh 'A', Phil Mead and Alan Cummings with trebles while Mike Stanners beat Simon Barter 11-9 11-8 7-11 3-11 11-9.

Our Lady of Peace 'A' kept leaders Kingfisher 'A' just about in their sights after they were comprehensive 9 - 1 winners at Tilehurst RBL 'A', Sam Ricks and Steve Murgatroyd with maximums, while for the Tilehurst team Keith Winter had a notable 11-8 1-11

Kingfisher 'C' and Sonning Common & Peppard 'B' are joint 6th, and although both teams are far from safe from any relegation trouble. They will still have more than an eye over their shoulders in this very even division – particularly in mid table. Sonning Common & Peppard 'C' are in 8th, just 2 points ahead of Tidmarsh A, who have a game in hand against the bottom side Tilehurst Royal British Legion 'A', so Tidmarsh still have their fate very much in their own hands. Tilehurst however look adrift at the foot and only a comprehensive win against Tidmarsh in that game in hand can bring them back into contention to avoid the drop.

A brief summary of each week's action since the last newsletter:

Week 7

Kingfisher 'A' moved 5 points ahead of their title rivals Our Lady of Peace 'A' with a match in hand after the Kingfisher team won a good contest against Sonning Common & Peppard 'B' 10 - 0. The Sonning Common team came close in a

		PL	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1	Kingfisher A	9	9	0	0	81	9	81
2	OLOP A	9	8	0	1	65	25	65
3	SC&P A	9	3	2	4	47	43	47
4	Kingfisher B	9	4	0	5	43	47	43
4	Kingfisher D	9	4	0	5	43	47	43
6	Kingfisher C	9	4	1	4	41	49	41
6	SC&P B	9	4	1	4	41	49	41
8	SC&P C	9	2	1	6	32	58	32
9	Tidmarsh A	8	2	1	5	30	50	30
10	Tilehurst RBL A	8	1	0	7	17	63	17





11-8 4-11 11-5 win over Ian Cole. OLOP go top but Kingfisher 'A' have two matches in hand. Sonning Common & Peppard 'A' moved up to third spot after they were 7 - 3 winners against Kingfisher 'D', Neil Hurford with another hat trick while Malcolm Gregory managed a fine 11-5 16-14 6-11 4-11 11-9 win over Julian Telford.

LEADING AVERAGES 1

Player	Team	P	W	%
Hari Gehlot	Kingfisher A	22	22	100.00%
Martin Adams	Kingfisher A	9	9	100.00%
Darren Jones	Kingfisher A	20	19	95.00%
Sam Ricks	OLOP A	12	11	91.67%
Ross Saxby	Kingfisher A	16	13	81.25%
Neil Hurford	SC&P A	24	19	79.17%
Ed Lush	SC&P C	18	14	77.78%
Mo Cook	OLOP A	18	14	77.78%
Ian Cole	OLOP A	18	14	77.78%
Graham Mendick	Kingfisher D	27	20	74.07%
Jamie Barlow	SC&P B	26	19	73.08%
Philip Mead	Kingfisher B	21	15	71.43%
Murgy Murgatroyd	OLOP A	21	14	66.67%
Dmitry Khakhamov	Kingfisher A	8	5	62.50%
Shreesh Gupte	Kingfisher C	15	9	60.00%
Jason Roberts	SC&P A	24	14	58.33%

Week 9

Sonning Common & Peppard 'B' were 8 - 2 winners against Sonning Common & Peppard 'C' in a match much closer than the score suggests. For the 'C' team Tim Raby managed a fine 6-11 11-9 9-11 12-10 11-2 win over Brian Meheux while Matt Isherwood played superbly at the end to defeat Jamie Barlow 11-6 12-10 7-11 4-11 11-7. For the 'B' team Simon Berry starred with a maximum. Kingfisher 'D' moved away from the bottom of the table after a convincing 9 - 1 success against Tilehurst RBL 'A', Graham Mendick and Julian Telford both getting trebles, while Tidmarsh 'A' beat a two man Sonning Common & Peppard 'A' side 6 - 4, Simon Barter just getting the better of Malcolm Gregory 9-11 11-5 6-11 11-9 11-9 as did team mate Duncan Groves who won 11-3 11-5 8-11 10-12 13-11.

Despite an early 11-8 11-8 11-5 win by Nigel Keedy against Ross Saxby, Kingfisher 'B' lost their intra club derby with Kingfisher 'A' 8 - 2, Hari Gehlot and Darren Jones with trebles for the 'A' side.

Week 10

Sam Ricks was in awesome form as he clinched a maximum for Our Lady of Peace 'A' in their 8 - 2 win at Sonning Common & Peppard 'B', Sam beating Jamie Barlow 11-2 11-9 11-3 with some terrific blocks against Jamie's attacking shots. Kingfisher 'A' remained top after Martin Adams, Hari Gehlot and Ross Saxby got trebles in their 10 - 0 victory against Tidmarsh 'A'. Phil Mead's hat trick helped Kingfisher 'B' win their intra club derby against Kingfisher 'C' 6 - 4, Alan Cummings winning twice and Stephen Leggett gaining a vital 7-11 11-8 12-10 2-11 11-9 win over Daniel McTiernan.

Jason Roberts starred with a 3-straight treble as Sonning Common & Peppard 'A' won 8 - 2 at bottom side Tilehurst RBL 'A', Jon Willis getting a notable win for Tilehurst by beating Neil Hurford 6-11 11-6 5-11 15-13 11-8. Keith Winter's treble helped Tilehurst RBL 'A' to their first win of the season as they beat Kingfisher 'C' 6-4, Jon Willis chipping in with a nail biting 10-12 15-13 8-11 13-11 11-9 win over Emma Blachford.

Week 11

Kingfisher 'A' moved 16 points clear at the top of the table after a comfortable 10 - 0 win over Kingfisher 'C', Martin Adams, Hari Gehlot and Darren Jones all with maximums. Phil Mead managed a closely fought treble for Kingfisher 'B' as they won a tight match at Sonning Common & Peppard 'C' 8 - 2, Phil winning his opener against Matt Stone 17-19 8-11 13-12 11-4 11-2. Nigel Keedy also picked up a maximum for the Kingfisher team.

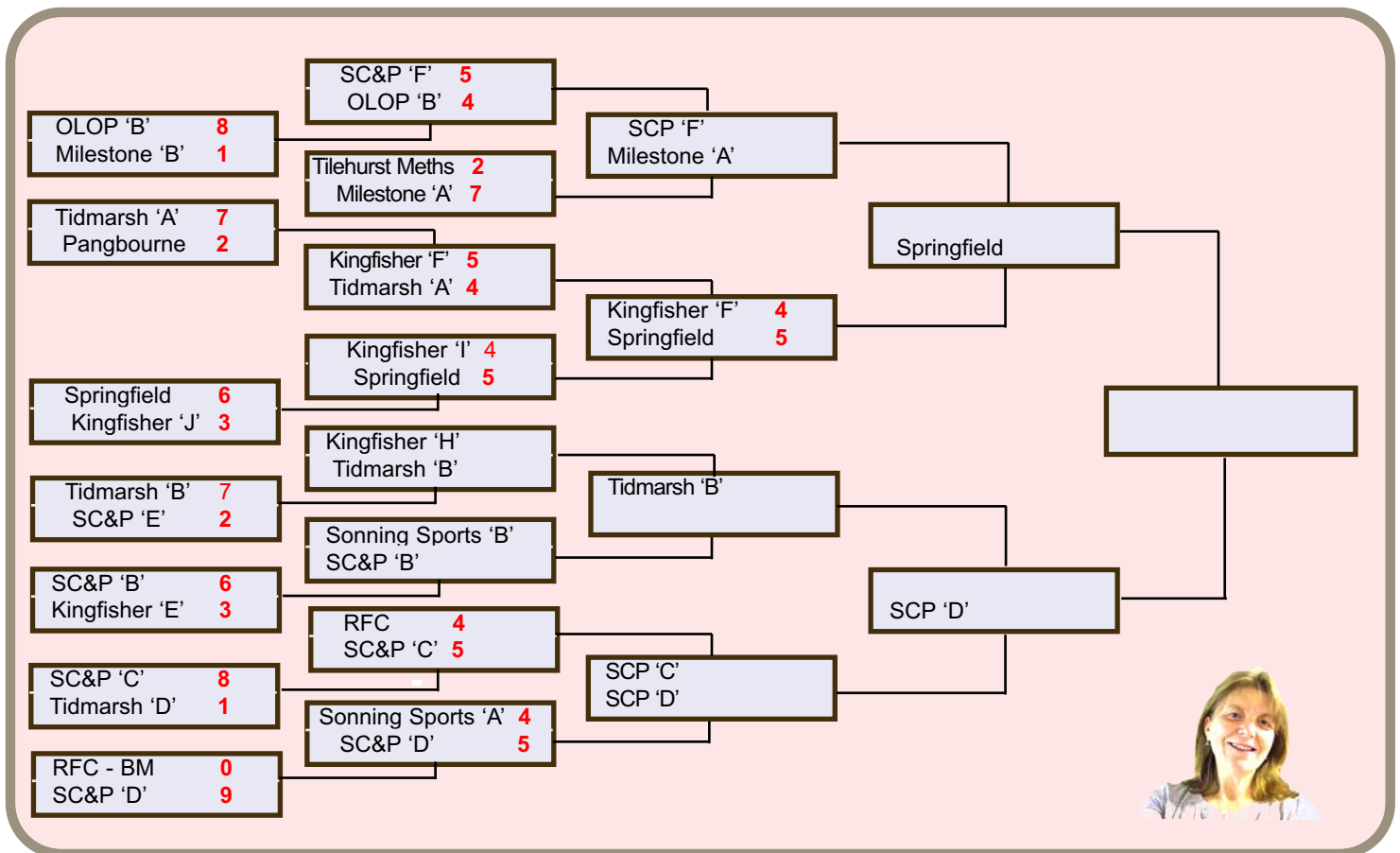
A determined Kingfisher 'D' team outplayed Sonning Common & Peppard 'B' to win 8 - 2, Graham Mendick with a hat trick that included a thrilling 12-10 9-11 11-7 14-16 11-8 win against Jamie Barlow. Jamie hit back to win his other two for Sonning Common, beating both Jordan Huang and Julian Telford 11-8 in the fifth.

Best wishes to all for Christmas and the New Year.



TEAM HANDICAP TOURNAMENT

by Louise Forster



This year's Team Handicap tournament continues to progress well. During the November 2021 cup week we saw six out of eight of the Round 2 matches being completed. Interestingly (and also reassuringly for a handicap event), five out of six of these matches resulted in very close 5 - 4 scorelines.

The closest match of the draw saw **Kingfisher 'F'** beating **Tidmarsh 'A'** 5 - 4. The score crept slowly up to 4 - 4 and the winning team was decided in the final set which saw Roger Pritchard (Kingfisher) beating Duncan Groves (Tidmarsh) 21 - 18 in the third set.

Another very close match saw **Springfield** beating **Kingfisher 'I'** 5 - 4. Springfield started the match well going 2 - 0 up, the young Kingfisher side fought back to make it 2 - 2, Springfield then took the next two sets, but yet again Kingfisher fought back to make it 4 - 4. The result hung on the final game between Theo Kniep of Kingfisher and Rob Wilkie (Springfield), this was a close game with Rob just clinching it in the final set.

Yet another very close match resulted in **Sonning Common and Peppard 'C'** beating **Reading Football Club 'A'** 5 - 4. Some neck and neck sets in this one with Denise Weller (Sonning Common) beating Wayne Alleyne (Reading Football Club) 25-23, 25-23 and also Matt Stone (Sonning Common) beating Anthony Alleyne (Reading Football Club) 23-21, 23-21.

Other matches saw **Sonning Common and Peppard 'D'** beating **Sonning Sports 'A'** 5 - 4; they will now go on to meet their club mates from Sonning Common and Peppard 'C' in the next round! Another Sonning Common and Peppard team, the 'F' team, are also through to the next round after a good 5 - 4 win against **OLOP**. This round also saw **Milestone 'A'** have a convincing 7 - 2 win away to **Tilehurst Methodists**.

We have some interesting quarter final matches coming up in December, I look forward to seeing the next round of results.





DIVISION TWO

by Martin Wetherell

In Division 2, the eventual champions will undoubtedly be crowned from one of the current top three. However, all three teams have encountered unexpected setbacks, with Kingfisher 'E' upsetting the bookies on more than one occasion. At this moment, it looks as if Sonning Sports 'A' are on track to win the Division, although they are likely to be chased all the way by Reading FC 'A', with Our Lady of Peace 'B' the dark horses in this three-way race. At the other end of the table, I think Kingfisher 'G' will finish bottom, despite having a strong squad, with Tidmarsh 'C' in 10th place, since I expect Tilehurst Methodists 'A' to win sufficient points not to be drawn into this relegation battle.

Eric Van Looy (Tilehurst Methodists 'A') is still top of the Individual Averages on 91.67%, although he has only played in one match this Quarter, followed by Mike Childs (Reading FC 'A') on 88.89%, Roger Pritchard (Kingfisher 'F') on 83.33% and Nick Sears (Sonning Sports 'A') on 82.61%, these three having played in twice as many matches as Eric. Nick Sears & Paul Savage (Sonning Sports 'A') are top of the Doubles Averages on 100%, having played together 8 times, Danny Dockree & Jon Abbott (Sonning Common & Peppard 'D') also on 100%, having played together 5 times, while Mike Childs &

Kingfisher 'E' have played a further 5 matches, winning twice, and have climbed one place, from 9th to 8th. All five members of the squad have played their part but Eyup Odemis was also asked to play up, on one occasion. In the first of these matches, against Our Lady of Peace 'B', Luca Bianchi made his first appearance, accompanied by Andrew Adair and Stephen Leggett. Although Stephen won twice, including a 13-11 7-11 7-11 11-6 11-2 victory over Louise Forster, OLOP took an early lead and were winning 4 - 2. After Andrew & Stephen lost the Doubles, to Dave Godfrey & Darek Kaminski, by the narrowest of margins 9-11 14-16 9-11, Kingfisher 'E' needed to win the three remaining sets to secure a draw. Sadly, although Luca defeated Louise, to secure a point, Andrew lost to Darek over 4 games, which meant that despite Stephen beating Dave 12-10 11-13 11-5 11-9, in the 10th set, the match ended in a 4 - 6 loss.

Club mates Kingfisher 'G' were the "visitors" for the next match and Luca demonstrated that he had blown off the rust by winning all three and with Abhay Gore winning once, beating Satej Jaywant in the opening set 10-12 11-4 8-11 11-8 14-12, as well as Stephen reprising his success of last week, by again winning twice, a 6 - 4 win was assured. In fact,

until he lost his last set to Neil Dellar 9-11 8-11 8-11, Stephen was on track for his own treble. Stephen was also picked for the away trip to play Sonning Common & Peppard 'D', extending his selection to 6 matches, Clive Gold made his first appearance for a month and Eyup played up from Division 3. However, they could each only win one set, eventually losing the match 3 - 7, although the effort exerted belies the result, with 46 games being played in total, six sets requiring 5 games to determine the winner. This competitiveness included the Doubles, with Danny Dockree & Jon Abbott denying Clive & Stephen a win, the games ending

13-11 10-12 9-11 11-9 11-5.

Another trip away followed, this time to play Tidmarsh 'C', but the overall result was the same, the team again losing 3 - 7. Andrew had the best success, winning twice, defeating Simon Craig in his final set 8-11 11-9 12-10 11-5 to deny Simon his maximum, Luca won once, defeating David Sheppard, with team-mate Abhay ending the evening with no wins, despite his efforts, winning the first two games before losing 11-9 12-10 5-11 5-11 8-11 to Ian Wu and 17-15 11-9 2-11 4-11 8-11 to Simon Craig. In their final match this Quarter, Kingfisher 'E' had a major impact on the title race by

		PL	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1	OLOP B	10	5	3	2	60	40	60
2	S Sports A	9	6	2	1	58	32	58
3	Reading FC A	9	8	0	1	57	33	57
4	Tidmarsh B	10	3	3	4	54	46	54
5	SC&P D	9	5	0	4	50	40	50
6	Kingfisher F	9	5	1	3	48	42	48
7	OLOP C	10	5	2	3	48	52	48
8	Kingfisher E	10	3	1	6	47	53	47
9	Tilehurst Meths A	10	3	1	6	40	60	40
10	Tidmarsh C	9	2	0	7	29	61	29
11	Kingfisher G	9	0	1	8	29	61	29

Wayne Alleyne are on 75%, having won 6 of their 8 outings. Nick Sears (Sonning Sports 'A') and Mike Childs (Reading FC 'A') are still neck and neck at the top of the Divisional PoM charts, with 6 wins apiece, while 6 players, each from a different team, have 3 awards to their names. The total number of players, in Division 2, who have won a PoM award has now risen to 26 and each team is now represented.

Now, before we move onto the team reviews, may I take this opportunity to send my best wishes for the New Year and fingers crossed that we will avoid a further lockdown !





beating second placed Sonning Sports 'A' 7 - 3, Stephen recording his second maximum of the Season, while Andrew and Clive both won twice, Clive within touching distance of his own treble, before losing his final set, against Paul Savage, 12-10 11-9 5-11 10-12 10-12.

At the end of the first Quarter, **Kingfisher 'F'** were in 7th place, having played 5 matches. They were due to play a further 5 matches in this Quarter but, due to a postponement, only 4 matches have been played. However, with two wins and one draw, the team have almost doubled their points total and, as a result, have climbed one place, to 6th. Their first match was an 8 - 2 win over Our Lady of Peace 'C', Ajai Kamath recording his third maximum, although all eyes were on Rick Leachman who was playing for the first time in two years and his performance merited the PoM award. Even though he narrowly lost his opening set, to Arun Rajagopal, 11-4 10-12 9-11 12-10 7-11 and found himself two games down in his next set, he fought back to defeat Kaan Kitay 5-11 8-11 11-9 12-10 11-6 and ended the night with two wins, as did Roger Pritchard. Ajai & Roger also played together in the Doubles, for the second time, winning again.

Unfortunately Ajai & Roger lost their 100% record the following week, beaten 11-6 16-18 7-11 9-11 by Angus Jones & Mark Jones, although their individual performances were sufficient to ensure the team defeated Sonning Common & Peppard 'D' 6 - 4, their performances reversed from the previous week, in that Roger recorded his third maximum, while Ajai recorded two wins, with the 5-11 11-5 8-11 12-10 7-11 loss to Mark Jones denying him the opportunity of a treble. However, another point was required for the victory and this was thanks to Eapen John winning his opening set, against Angus Jones. Kingfisher 'F' were unable to make it three consecutive wins as they lost a close encounter with Tilehurst Methodists 'A' 4 - 6 and at 2 - 5 down, after the Doubles, they fought back, with Ajai victorious in his final set to record a single, followed by Roger winning a close match-up 3 - 2 to record a double, but the comeback was over as Eapen John was unable to emulate his success in winning his opening set, when he defeated Phil Jones 13-11 11-6 4-11 11-8, ending the evening with the one win.

A fortnight later, Kingfisher 'F' welcomed Tidmarsh 'B' who have been in 4th place for much of the current campaign. John Little made his third appearance, but was unable to break his duck, losing all three, although he did partner Roger to a Doubles win, on their first outing this Season, Roger also winning all three to record another maximum and secure the draw that had only been possible thanks to Eapen winning his final set. Their final match, against Reading FC 'A', was postponed because the venue was unavailable and has been rescheduled to be played the following week.

Kingfisher 'G' were in 10th place at the start of this second Quarter, having played 6 matches, but with only three more matches played and one further match postponed, they now find themselves at the bottom of the table, equal on points with Tidmarsh 'C', having played the same number of matches, although they are still looking for their first win. They opened this Quarter's fixture list with their worst defeat to date, losing to Sonning Common & Peppard 'D' 1 - 9, Neil Dellar recording one win after victory in the opening set of the match. However, it was all downhill from there, with Hamid Mohseni and Anup Chopra both losing all three, although they both won games against Angus Jones. There were some close calls, with Neil losing his second set to Danny Dockree in the 5th game and his final set, to Jon Abbott, 11-9 3-11 9-11 9-11, while Hamid & Anup also had a battling debut in the Doubles, before losing 4-11 13-11 11-7 1-11 6-11.

Another away fixture, another loss, although a much closer call with club mates from Kingfisher 'E' just edging it 6 - 4. Satej Jaywant replaced Anup in the starting roster and although he wasn't able to record a singles win, his best chance being the opening set of the match, he partnered Neil to a debut win in the Doubles. Although Neil lost his opening set, he won his remaining two singles, with Hamid earning the team's other point in winning his final set, against Abhay Gore, 10-12 11-2 11-9 11-4. The following week, they suffered another narrow defeat, this time losing 4 - 6, at home to Tidmarsh 'C'. Satej got the team off to a great start and ended the evening with his second maximum, being pushed all the way in his final set, eventually defeating David Sheppard 13-15 12-10 9-11 11-5 11-9, as well as making a successful debut with Hamid, in the Doubles. Neither Anup nor Hamid were able to secure any wins, although it was not for lack of effort, with all

LEADING AVERAGES

Player	Team	P	W	%
Eric Van Looy	Tilehurst Meths A	12	11	91.67%
Mike Childs	Reading FC A	27	24	88.89%
Roger Pritchard	Kingfisher F	24	20	83.33%
Nick Sears	Sonning Sports A	23	19	82.61%
Barry Carter	Tidmarsh B	24	18	75.00%
Francois Durand	Tidmarsh B	15	11	73.33%
Paul Savage	Sonning Sports A	26	19	73.08%
Jonathan Abbott	SCP 'D'	18	13	72.22%
Danny Dockree	SCP 'D'	24	17	70.83%
Pradeep Desh	OLOP C	24	17	70.83%
Darek Kaminski	OLOP B	24	16	66.67%
Dave Godfrey	OLOP B	18	12	66.67%
Neil Dellar	Kingfisher G	15	10	66.67%
Dale Ballard	Tidmarsh B	15	10	66.67%
Chris West	OLOP B	12	8	66.67%
Ajai Kamath	Kingfisher F	24	15	62.50%



three of Hamid's singles going to 5 games. Their match against one of the title chasing teams, Sonning Sports 'A', was postponed and will now be rescheduled to be played next year.

Our Lady of Peace 'B' ended the last Quarter in 3rd place but, following a fine run of form, winning and drawing twice, they currently occupy top spot, albeit having played one more match than the two teams directly below them. In their first match this Quarter they beat Kingfisher 'E' 6 - 4, Darek Kaminski winning all three for the first time, his set against Stephen Leggett his toughest contest before he won 11-5 11-6 10-12 13-11, while Dave Godfrey won twice, as well as partnering Darek to a Doubles win, on their first outing this Season, narrowly beating Andrew Adair & Steve Leggett 11-9 16-14 11-9, which secured the points. Louise Forster was the third player, but was unable to find a win, although her first opponent needed 5 games to secure victory.

One week later, for an away trip to Tidmarsh 'C', Louise dropped out and Alistair Richardson took her place, winning one set when he beat David Sheppard 11-6 10-12 11-8 11-6. However, Dave and Darek both recorded trebles and also reprised their Doubles win, which meant that the match was won 8 - 2. A top of the table tussle, against Sonning Sports 'A', was next on the schedule and Dave was replaced in the roster by Chris West. During the evening 42 games were played, with the results pretty evenly split. Chris West and Darek each won twice and then partnered up, for the first time, narrowly losing 2 - 3. However, Alistair chipped in with another win, defeating Harry Brough 9-11 16-14 6-11 11-5 11-7, which meant that the match was drawn 5 - 5. Three weeks later, OLOP 'B' were up against their club mates from the 'C' team, but needed a substitute to make up the numbers, Jan Polnik playing up from Division 4. Sadly, Jan's style was too well known to his opponents and he was unable to record any wins, although he took Kaan Kitay to 5 games, eventually losing 9-11 3-11 12-10 11-1 8-11. However, Darek and Alistair both won twice and partnered up, for the second time, to win the Doubles, thus ensuring that the match was drawn 5 - 5.

Our Lady of Peace 'C' were in 5th place at the end of the first Quarter, having played 5 matches, and having played a further 5 matches, with two wins and one draw, they have dropped to 7th place, one point ahead of Kingfisher 'E' in 8th place. The first of the five matches was away to Kingfisher 'F' and with Patrick Daniels unable to repeat his efforts from two weeks earlier, the match was lost 2 - 8, the points being earned by Kaan Kitay, who took the scalp of Roger Pritchard 6-11 11-8 11-7 11-8, and Arun Rajagopal, who managed to overcome Rick Leachman 4-11 12-10 11-9 10-12 11-7, both players winning their opening sets.

One week later, Tilehurst Methodists 'A' were the visitors and after a close contest, OLOP won 6 - 4, thanks to Binit Bhaskar holding his nerve to beat Masoud Ghabachi in the 10th set, to record his double. Pradeep Desh won his first two sets, to record a double, but was denied his treble by Phil Jones who won 8-11 19-17 11-4 2-11 11-8, while substitute Simon Brookes recorded one win which, along with the Doubles, were all vital in securing victory. Pradeep Desh was left in charge for the next match, away to Tidmarsh 'B', and showed his potential as a future Team Captain, by persuading Parvin Baishkiyar and Morgan Sykes to play-up, after illness and holidays affected the rest of the squad. After the first 6 singles, Morgan had won twice while Pradeep and Parvin had both won once, meaning the team was guaranteed at least a draw after Morgan & Pradeep won the Doubles 11-7 11-3 10-12 13-11. However, Pradeep then won his final set, against Chris Webb, 6-11 11-8 11-7 6-11 11-7, to guarantee the victory, the match ending 6 - 4.

Two weeks later, Binit, Patrick and Pradeep welcomed Reading FC 'A', another of the Division's leaders. Pradeep again won twice, for the 6th consecutive match, but with Patrick losing all three and the Doubles being lost, the match ended in a 3 - 7 loss, after Binit defeated Wayne Alleyne in the 10th set 10-12 11-7 11-6 11-9, to earn his single. A week later, Binit, Pradeep and Kaan were travelling to face another top team, in the shape of club mates Our Lady of Peace 'B'. Although Binit & Pradeep lost the Doubles, losing to Darek Kaminski & Alistair Richardson 3-11 10-12 8-11, reducing their win percentage to 50%, honour was satisfied as the match was drawn 5 - 5, since Pradeep and Kaan both won twice, while Binit won once.

Reading FC 'A' were in 1st place, undefeated, after winning their first 6 matches but, after playing only three of their four scheduled matches they have fallen to 3rd place. However, like the team one point ahead, they have a match in hand so the number one spot is still within reach. They started this second Quarter with an 8 - 2 home win over Tidmarsh 'C', Mike Childs with another maximum while Wayne Alleyne and Jazz Dhillon both ended the evening with two wins apiece, each losing their opening set in the 5th game, to deny them the opportunity of a treble, Jazz the busier player, since all three of his singles needed 5 games to determine the winner. Mike & Wayne also returned to winning ways in the Doubles, having lost their 100% in their previous match.

The following week, Reading FC 'A' travelled to Sonning Sports 'A', for the big showdown between two of the front runners, Jazz stepping down and Tony Alleyne returning to the fray. However, Mike dropped points for only the third time, losing his second set against Nick Sears 11-9 7-11 11-1 9-11



7-11, and with Mike & Wayne losing the Doubles, coupled with Wayne only recording the one win, while Tony lost all three singles, it meant that they returned home having lost the match 3 - 7. Due to there only being 11 teams in this Division, it was almost three weeks before Reading FC 'A' played again, this time against Our Lady of Peace 'C', with Jazz returning to the line-up and Tony stepping down. Wayne recorded one win, Jazz two wins, Pradeep Desh denying Jazz his treble, Mike three wins and with Mike & Wayne also winning the Doubles, the match finished in a 7 - 3 victory. Their final match which was scheduled to be played on 8th December had to be postponed, due to a site audit. However, this match should be played shortly and the match report will appear in due course.

Sonning Common & Peppard 'D' were scheduled to play 5 matches this Quarter, but with their match against Tidmarsh 'C' being postponed, by Christmas and Covid, it is now anticipated this will be rescheduled for next January. The Commoners ended the first Quarter in 8th place, but after a very successful second Quarter they have more than doubled their points total, even though they have played one fewer match, and having climbed to 5th they are now only four points adrift of Tidmarsh 'B', who have played one match more. They started this run with a magnificent 9 - 1 win, at home to Kingfisher 'G', Jon Abbott and Danny Dockree both recording trebles while Angus Jones had to be content with a double after losing his opening set. However, Jon had a fight on his hands to secure his treble but, after losing the first game to Neil Dellar, went on to win 9-11 11-3 11-9 11-9. In the Doubles, Danny & Jon were pushed all the way, but eventually defeated Hamid Mohseni & Anup Chopra 11-4 11-13 7-11 11-1 11-6, maintaining their 100% record.

Jon made way for Mark Jones, for the away trip to play Kingfisher 'F' but the team got off to a bad start, losing the first three sets. Mark steadied the ship by winning a tense 5-game set, defeating Ajai Kamath 11-5 5-11 11-8 10-12 11-7, and after winning the Doubles, with Angus, the team was trailing 3 - 4. Although Angus was unable to find that elusive win, losing his final set 8-11 11-8 12-14 11-13, Mark won his final set meaning that a draw was possible, if Danny won the 10th set. Sadly, it was not to be and Danny was unable to add to his earlier win, meaning that the match ended in a 4 - 6 loss. Mark and Jon again swapped places, for the visit of Kingfisher 'E' and this strategy worked, with the team winning 7 - 3. Danny led the way, winning all three, although he needed 5 games to win the 1st and 10th sets. Jon guaranteed at least a draw by winning his final set, thus securing his double, and Angus won his final set to record a single, thus ensuring the team's victory. Mark returned, with Angus dropping out, for the visit to Tilehurst Methodists 'A'. Danny was again the star player, winning all three to record his

third maximum in four matches and again partnering Jon to their third win this Quarter, cementing second place in the Doubles Averages, with 5 wins from 5. Jon also overcame Jes Eassom, in the opening set, to record one win and Mark also won once, beating Masoud Ghabachi, meaning that they won the match 6 - 4.

Sonning Sports 'A' were also scheduled to play 5 matches in this Quarter, but their match with Kingfisher 'G' has now been rescheduled for 6th January. Despite only playing 4 matches, Sonning Sports have retained their 2nd place and although the team at the top has changed over this Quarter, Sonning Sports has played one match less and is therefore still in the driving seat to win the Division. The first of these 4 matches was an away trip to Tidmarsh 'B', which resulted in a 7 - 3 win, Nick Sears recording a treble, Paul Savage a double and Keith Machin a single, defeating Dale Ballard 11-6 11-6 7-11 11-9. Paul's loss included two high-scoring games, Mike Aistrop eventually winning 11-5 3-11 20-18 17-19 11-7.

The following week, all the players returned the same results as in their previous match, which meant that Nick recorded his 6th maximum, Paul recorded his 5th double and Bob Woodmansee recorded his 3rd single. Impressive in a normal week, but this match was against fellow title chasers Reading FC 'A' and in also winning the Doubles, to retain their undefeated status, the 7 - 3 win allowed them to replace Reading FC 'A' at the top of the table. One week later, Sonning Sports 'A' played away at Our Lady of Peace 'B', another title rival. Harry Brough was drafted in from Division 4 and won his final set, beating Darek Kaminski 11-8 5-11 13-11 9-11 11-6, a crucial step in securing a 5 - 5 draw, which was achieved after the team fought back from 1 - 4 down, with Nick recording one win, Paul two wins and continuing their impressive Doubles run.

Due to the postponement, it was three weeks later when Sonning Sports 'A' travelled to play Kingfisher 'E', who upset the apple cart by winning 7 - 3, opening up the title race once again. This was the first match where apparent talisman Nick wasn't selected to play, which also meant that a new Doubles partnership was on display for the first time. Regardless, Paul continued his record of winning at least two singles in every match, by recording a further double, and he also partnered Bob to a Doubles win.

Tidmarsh 'B' were in 4th place, after their first 6 matches, and having played another 4 matches in this Quarter, winning once and drawing once, they are still in 4th. The squad of 5 remains the same, with Mike Aistrop and François Durand making two further appearances, Dale Ballard and Barry Carter



being selected three more times, Chris Webb playing in one match, meaning that Ray Webb has also been needed to play up, on one further occasion. This Quarter started with a 3 - 7 home defeat by Sonning Sports 'A', Mike on target for a maximum before losing his final set to Nick Sears 5-11 11-13 9-11, Dale having no success all evening, losing the final game in each set 9-11, and Barry winning once.

Tidmarsh 'B' had no match scheduled the following week, so it was a fortnight later when they welcomed visitors Our Lady of Peace 'C', who subsequently left with a 6 - 4 win, despite François recording his second maximum of the Season, with Mike securing the other point in winning his final set, while Chris is still working hard to record his first win. This match saw Chris partner with François for the first time, in the Doubles. A fortnight later, Dale, Barry and substitute Ray Webb travelled to play Kingfisher 'F' and after 39 games were played, the result was a 5 - 5 draw. Dale and Barry both won twice, Barry being denied his treble when he lost his final set to Roger Pritchard 8-11 11-8 9-11 11-6 9-11, while Ray's single also played its part in securing the draw.

The final match of this Quarter saw Tidmarsh 'B' select a very strong team, for the visit of Tilehurst Methodists 'A' and a very successful strategy it proved to be, with Dale, Barry and François all undefeated on the night. This dominant performance included the Doubles, with Barry & Dale recording their third win together to ensure the match ended 10 - 0, the team dropping only four games all evening and winning each of the 9 games that were decided by the minimum two points allowed.

Tidmarsh 'C' were scheduled to play 5 matches this Quarter, but with one Christmas postponement, have ended up playing the same number of matches as Kingfisher 'G', swapping places with Kingfisher 'G', by dint of a better win rate. In fact, having lost all five matches in the 1st Quarter, they continued this losing streak in their next two matches, albeit against table toppers Reading FC 'A' and Our Lady of Peace 'B', before turning it around with wins against Kingfisher 'G' and 'E', the two teams directly above them at the start of this Quarter. No further signings having been made, the squad still comprises Simon Craig, Richard Hudson, Captain Dave Sheppard and Ian Wu, Ian still the only team member to record a maximum. Simon, Richard and Ian travelled to Reading FC 'A' where despite a close contest, with 39 games played, only Simon and Ian, with one win apiece had anything to show for their efforts, the match ending in a 2 - 8 loss. And by close, I mean close, since Ian narrowly defeated Jazz Dhillon 9-11 9-11 11-9 12-10 11-8 in what was

surely one of the closest matches this Season, while Simon followed up Ian's win with his own comeback, beating Wayne Alleyne 11-9 2-11 6-11 11-9 11-9. However, it was all downhill from here, with Reading FC winning the remaining 7 sets.

It was no better the following week, when visitors OLOP 'B' won by the same score line, in a possibly more one-sided contest, since only 35 games were played. In some respects, the players could have saved themselves a lot of effort, since every set was won by the person who won the first game. David replaced Simon, in the line-up, but was unable to record a win, the two points being courtesy of Ian and Richard, who both defeated Alistair Richardson. Ian almost made it two wins, but in a close contest lost to Dave Godfrey 5-11 4-11 11-9 11-9 9-11. David & Richard made their debut as a Doubles pair, but lost in straight sets. On 15th November, Tidmarsh 'C' travelled to Kingfisher, to play their 'G' team, Simon, Richard and David all losing to Satej Jaywant but, after winning all their other singles, they eventually won the match 6 - 4, which was their first success this Season. However, David had a close contest with Satej, in the final set, narrowly missing out on his first maximum, after losing 15-13 10-12 11-9 5-11 9-11, David & Richard reprised their Doubles pairing but again lost in straight sets, being beaten by Hamid Mohseni & Satej 10-12 3-11 13-15.

Two weeks later, Kingfisher 'E' were their next visitors, when they went one better, winning 7 - 3, Ian recording his second treble, fighting back from two games down, to win the opening set, against Abhay Gore, 9-11 10-12 11-5 11-5 11-8. Simon reprised his two wins from the previous match, the 11-8 9-11 10-12 5-11 loss to Andrew Adair, ending his hopes of a maximum, while David recorded a further win, in beating Abhay, as well as partnering Ian to the team's first Doubles success. This Quarter should have ended with an away trip to Sonning Common & Peppard 'D' but, with the venue being unavailable on the requested date, the match was initially postponed until the 15th December. However, with the increase in Covid cases, due to the greater transmissibility of Omicron, the match has now been postponed until the New Year.

Having played 6 matches in the first Quarter, **Tilehurst Methodists 'A'** have only played 4 more matches and, with just one more win to their name, have dropped from 6th place to 9th. Their star man is still Eric Van Looy, but he has stretched his resources and possibly his wife's patience by playing in three Leagues, as well as fighting to keep his standing in the virtual table tennis world ! Jes Eassom continues to be the backbone of the team, missing just one match, but this Quarter has been matched in appearances by both Masoud Ghabachi and Phil Jones, with Bill Stamatiou appearing twice and Eric just once. After their designated "week off", Jes, Masoud and Phil travelled to Our Lady of

Peace 'C' where, despite Phil recording his first treble of the Season, they lost 4 - 6, Jes earning the other point, defeating Simon Brookes over 5 games. Masoud also had a close match with Simon, winning the opening game but eventually losing 11-5 7-11 10-12 10-12. Phil fought hard for his maximum, for which he earned his first PoM, beating Simon in his opening set, then defeating Binit Bhaskar 11-7 9-11 5-11 11-7 11-6 before winning his final set, against Pradeep Desh, 8-11 19-17 11-14 2-11 11-8.

Eric and Bill returned for the next match, a visit from Kingfisher 'F', replacing Jes and Masoud in the roster, but even though Phil was unable to repeat his success of the previous week, Eric won all three of his sets, Bill won twice and together they recorded their second Doubles success, which was enough to win the match 6 - 4. Ajai Kamath undoubtedly pushed Eric the most, with three close games before Eric sussed his style and won 11-9 10-12 11-9 11-4. However, Bill was the slightly busier player, dispatching Ajai over 3 games, then Eapen John over 4 games (9-11 11-6 11-8 11-9) before losing to Roger Pritchard in 5 games, thus missing out on his first maximum. Unfortunately this was the only win this Quarter and Jes, Masoud and Phil were on the wrong end of another 4 - 6 score line, losing at home to Sonning Common & Peppard 'D', Phil almost reprising his success from two weeks earlier, while Jes and Masoud each won once, Jes defeating Mark Jones 11-7 11-7 11-7 in the 10th set, while Masoud came out on top, in his match-up with Jon Abbott, winning 12-10 13-11 9-11 4-11 11-7. In an

effort to save this match, a new Doubles partnership was tried, but Masoud & Phil were unable to overcome Jon Abbott & Danny Dockree, although their 10-12 8-11 7-11 loss surely merits a further experiment. Phil started his match with a narrow win over Mark Jones, 5-11 11-5 10-12 11-8 18-16, but lost his final set, against Danny, which determined who went home undefeated.

For the last match of this Quarter, Jes, Masoud and Bill travelled to Tidmarsh 'B', where they were unfortunate to meet a side with a point to prove. Masoud lost his sets without winning a game, although the 3rd game in two of these sets was won by the minimum 2 points required, Jes did slightly better by taking a game off François Durand, while Bill almost saved the whitewash, before losing to François 10-12 11-5 6-11 11-5 8-11. This outing saw the Methodists try their sixth partnership of the Season, but Bill & Jes apparently fared no better than many others, losing in straight sets. Until you note that they only lost to Barry Carter & Dale Ballard, a successful Doubles pair, by the narrowest of margins, 13-15 9-11 9-11, so I expect to see this pairing compete again this Season.

INDIVIDUAL HANDICAP TOURNAMENT *by Eric van Looy*

After a 1-year hiatus, the RDTTA will hold its Individual Handicap Tournament on Saturday 8 January 2022 at the Sippenham Table Tennis Club in Slough.

The maximum number of entries is capped at 40 players, so register as soon as possible if you wish to participate!

Every registered player will receive an email confirmation within 24 hours of signing up.

Go [HERE](#) for Rules & Regulations, the current Player List, and the Sign-Up page.

Registrations close on 5 January at 11:59 PM.

Any player over the entry cap will be added to a reserve list, and will be added as a player (first come, first serve) as and when earlier registered

players cancel their entry.

If you need to cancel, please do so by 6 January (organiser's details can be found on the tournament page), so we can give your space to a player on the reserve list with a sufficient 48-hour notice.



With regard to the current COVID situation, the RDTTA will follow all official guidance issued by the government (<https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>)

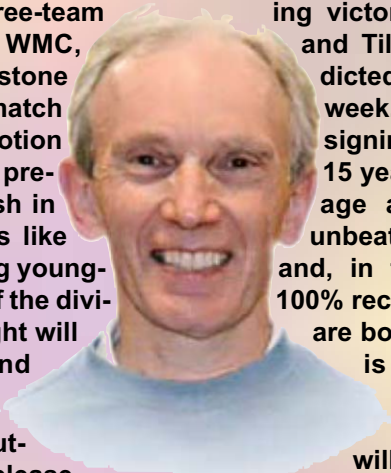
and expects all players to be familiar with that guidance. If the organiser becomes aware of guidance that affects the organisation of this tournament, all participants will be notified by email as soon as possible.



DIVISION THREE

by John Willcocks

The promotion contest has become very tight and has developed into a three-team race between Pangbourne WMC, Tilehurst RBL 'B' and Kingfisher 'I', Milestone 'A' are just behind the top three with a match in hand so they could still mount a promotion challenge as well. It is still difficult to predict which of the front runners will finish in the top two but at the moment it looks like Pangbourne WMC and the fast improving youngsters from Kingfisher 'I'. At the bottom of the division it looks likely that the relegation fight will be between SC&P 'E', OLOP 'E' and Springfield.



There are a few postponed matches outstanding so could the team captains please attempt to get them re-arranged as soon as they can. I hope everyone has a good Christmas and New Year and I look forward to seeing you in the second half of the season.

Pangbourne WMC I predicted in the last newsletter that this team would finish as division winners and I still think that will be the case even though their lead at the top of the table is only four points. Since the last newsletter they have won all of their matches with score lines of between 7 – 3 and 9 – 1 and they are showing very consistent form. Clive Taylor continues to lead the way and has only lost once, John Simmonds is picking up two's almost every week and Leroy Wilson is winning at least once every match. There is still the concern that with only three players their season could be disrupted at some stage by injury or other availability issues but as long as that does not happen they should finish in the top two.

Prediction – 1st

Best Recent Performance – Leroy Wilson with an excellent comeback win in four against Ruben Hernandez

Tilehurst RBL 'B' have won three times and lost once recently. They had two wins against mid table sides, lost 7 – 3 to Kingfisher 'I' but followed this with an impressive 7 – 3 victory over Milestone 'A'. They are likely to contest the promotion places right up until the end of the season but may just miss out in the end. Kate Maksimenko has continued her good form and is averaging almost 90%, Nick Lean and myself have over 67% and skipper Linda King has been picking up some good wins. Linda is currently injured but hopefully she will be fit enough to start playing again in January. They could still finish in the top two and their final position may well not be decided until the final week.

Prediction – 3rd

Best Recent Performance- Kate Maksimenko with a fine win in four against Zoltan Kelemen

Kingfisher 'I' have won four matches in a row including victories over promotion rivals Milestone 'A' and Tilehurst RBL 'B' and like I previously predicted appear to be improving almost every week. Their squad has been boosted by the signing of the impressive Ryan Chung who at 15 years old has managed to increase the average age of their team somewhat. Ryan is unbeaten in the three matches he has played and, in the process, he took Zoltan Kelemen's 100% record from him. Theo Kniep and Ethan Zeng are both averaging over 70% and Sahil Tekurkar is also winning consistently. Rishaan Sawant has not been able to match the form of the rest of the team but I am sure he will start winning regularly in the second half of the season. I originally thought that, despite the fact that they would improve dramatically as the season progressed, they would probably just miss out on promotion but the signing of Ryan has changed things and I now think they will finish in the top two.

Prediction – 2nd

Best Recent Performance – Ryan Chung not only taking Zoltan Kelemen's 100% record in a close set which went to five but also beating Sachin Mundra three straight in the same match

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1 Pangbourne	9	7	0	2	61	29	61
2 Tilehurst RBL B	8	6	0	2	53	27	53
3 Kingfisher I	8	6	0	2	52	28	52
4 OLOP D	8	4	1	3	42	38	42
5 Kingfisher H	9	2	1	6	41	49	41
6 Milestone A	7	4	0	3	40	30	40
7 Tidmarsh D	7	3	2	2	35	35	35
8 Springfield	8	2	0	6	26	54	26
9 OLOP E	7	2	1	4	23	47	23
10 SC&P E	7	0	1	6	17	53	17

OLOP 'D' have lost three of their last four matches with the scores in all four matches being close. Their three defeats have all been against teams challenging for promotion and their win was 6 - 4 against SC&P 'E' despite skipper Simon Brookes was taken ill and having to concede two sets. Almost all of their matches so far have been close so it looks like they will finish in the top half of the table but they are unlikely to challenge for promotion. Morgan Sykes has their highest average having won twice in every match she has played in. The rest of their squad have averages of between 45% and 59% so they are a strong all-round team.

Prediction – 5th

Best Recent Performance - Mark Carless with two good wins against Kingfisher 'I' including a win in four



against Ethan Zeng

Kingfisher 'H' although they are currently fifth they have played more matches than any other team in the division so their league position is probably a bit false. Their recent results have been three defeats and a draw although the only heavy defeat was against league leaders Pangbourne WMC. Ruben Hernandez is proving to be their best player and is on 58% with the rest of their squad regularly picking up one's or two's. They should finish in a comfortable mid-table position.

Prediction – 7th

Best Recent Performance – Ruben Hernandez with a three straight victory over John Simmonds and getting very close to beating Clive Taylor in the same match

Milestone 'A' have only played three times recently and consequently they are currently in sixth place in the division which is a false position as they have matches in hand on all of the teams above them. They have lost three of their last four matches although all of the defeats were against the promotion contenders. Zoltan Kelemen continues to be their star player, although having lost his 100% record to Ryan Chung, he then lost twice in the next match against Tilehurst RBL 'B'. Sachin Mundra has been playing well and although Oliver Bonser has only won twice many of his losses have been close so I would expect him to improve his win ratio soon. They could still feature in the promotion race but only having three players may hamper them and I think they will just miss out

Prediction – 4th

Best Recent Performance – Zoltan Kelemen recovering from losing twice in the match against Tilehurst RBL 'B' to beat your DFS three straight.

Tidmarsh 'D' have still played fewer matches than anyone else but they have played five times since the last newsletter so they have started to catch up. Those matches have yielded mixed results with two wins, two defeats and a draw, although in the defeat against OLOP 'E' they were only able to field two players. However, they are more than doing enough to show that they should end up in a very comfortable mid-table position. Dave Edwards and Ray Webb have had a good run of results and are averaging in the 70's and 60's and Terry Hardie has picked up at least one win every time he has played. Thereasa Watson has not won as often as she would like but she did pick up a very good maximum against SC&P 'E'.

Prediction – 6th

Best Recent Performance – Ray Webb with a very hard-fought maximum against Springfield

Springfield have only played three times recently partly because they had some issues with their hall availability which it looks like they have been able to resolve. In those three matches they suffered 7 – 3 defeats to Pangbourne WMC and Tidmarsh 'D' but they did manage to beat Kingfisher 'H' by the same scoreline. With

six players in their squad it is not easy to predict how they will do in the rest of the season as, with three players winning regularly and three struggling a bit, team selection could turn out to be crucial. Skipper Jason King has their highest average closely followed by Rob Wilkie and if they can field their best team for some of the crucial matches they could just avoid relegation

Prediction –10th

Best Recent Performance – Rob Wilkie with two great wins in five against Pangbourne WMC including recovering from two down to beat Leroy Wilson in five.

OLOP 'E' are another team who have only played three times recently but in the matches played they have had two good wins plus a heavy defeat against the leaders. So they find themselves in the bottom two but with a match in hand and it looks like it will be a close contest between them and Springfield to avoid the second relegation spot. Parvin Baishkiyar has been showing some good form and is now averaging 71% and they probably need him to play in most of the remaining fixtures if they are going to avoid the bottom two. Their other players have all been picking up some useful wins and the team look capable of getting good results against of the teams that are around them in the table.

Prediction – 9th

Best Recent Performance – Parvin Baishkiyar with a three straight win over Leroy Wilson in the defeat against Pangbourne WMC

SC&P'E' are still to win a match and although they are only nine points behind Springfield with a match in hand they do look likely to finish bottom of the division. Since the last newsletter they have lost all four of the matches they have played with three heavy defeats and a close one against OLOP 'D'. Ian Davenport had continued to play well and is averaging just under 60% but with their next best average 22% it is difficult to see them winning matches.

Prediction –10th

Best Recent Performance – Ian Davenport coming back from 2 – 1 down to beat John Simmonds in five.

Player	Team	P	W	%
Ryan Chung	Kingfisher I	9	9	100.00%
Clive Taylor	Pangbourne WMC	27	25	92.59%
Kate Maksimenko	Tilehurst RBL B	18	16	88.89%
Zoltan Kelemen	Milestone A	21	18	85.71%
Theo Knip	Kingfisher I	21	17	80.95%
John Willcocks	Tilehurst RBL B	18	13	72.22%
Ethan Zeng	Kingfisher I	18	13	72.22%
Parvin Baishkiyar	OLOP E	14	10	71.43%
Dave Edwards	Tidmarsh D	14	10	71.43%
Nick Lean	Tilehurst RBL B	21	14	66.67%
Morgan Sykes	OLOP D	15	10	66.67%
Ray Webb	Tidmarsh D	15	10	66.67%
Satej Jaywant (S)	Kingfisher H	6	4	66.67%



LOWER DIVISIONS KNOCKOUT TOURNAMENT

by Louise Forster

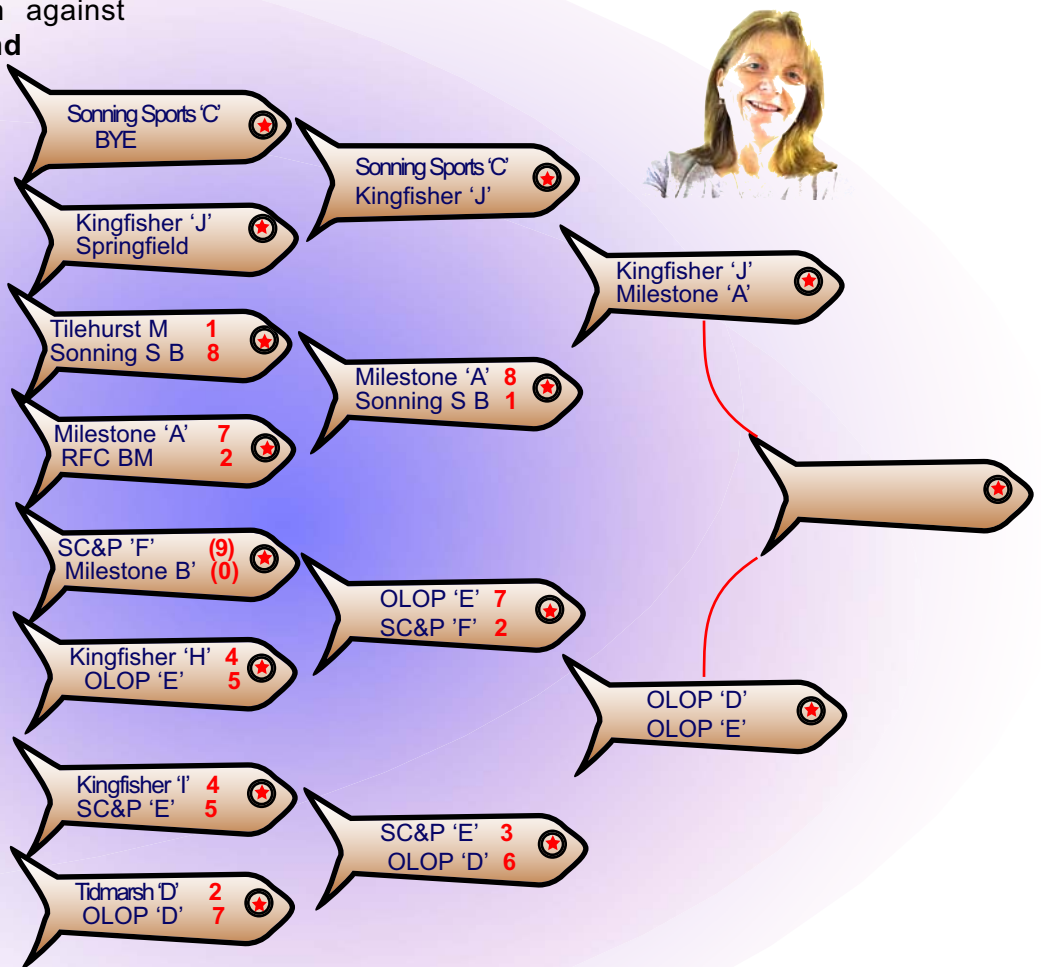
November cup week brought us to the quarter finals of this year's Lower Divisions Knockout Cup. Three out of four of these matches have now been played and the fourth match (**Sonning Sports 'C'** vs **Kingfisher 'J'**) is being played this week.

Milestone 'A' had a convincing 8 - 1 win at home against **Sonning Sports 'B'**, with Harry Brough getting the one win in for Sonning Sports against Sachin Mundra of Milestone. **OLOP 'E'** also had a fairly comfortable win against

Sonning Common and **Peppard 'F'**,

winning the match 7 - 2, with Parvin Baishkiyar winning all three for OLOP, and Marko Mazdar and Alistair Scott winning one apiece for Sonning Common. The other quarter final saw **OLOP 'D'** beating **Sonning Common** and **Peppard 'E'** 6 - 3. This was an interesting match where Simon Brookes, Morgan Sykes and Graham Stark all won two sets each for OLOP, but interestingly all lost to a different player! With Anthony Reeve, Jim Warren and Ian Davenport all winning one apiece for Sonning Common. It just proves that it's all about the game styles in table tennis!

The semi finals are all set to be played in February. **OLOP 'D'** will be meeting **OLOP 'E'**, and **Milestone 'A'** will meet the winners of **Sonning Sports 'C'** vs **Kingfisher 'J'**. It's been a great tournament so far, and I look forward to the next set of results. Good luck to all!



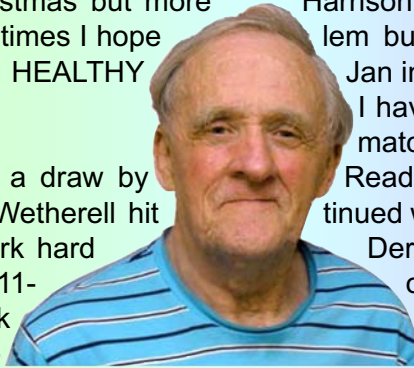


DIVISION FOUR

by Derek Harrison

Hello Everybody.

First I hope that you all have/had a good Christmas but more important in these trying times I hope that you and your families have a HEALTHY 2022.



Tilehurst Meths 'B' were held to a draw by Reading FC Biscuit men. Martin Wetherell hit his usual maximum but had to work hard against Joe Bull to beat him 8-11, 11-7, 10-12, 11-9, 13-11. Arek Zolkowski won one besides teaming up with Martin to win the doubles. I can now add a few comments from Martin: He said he was a lucky bunny to win all three. "Not sure how I beat Joe since he deserved to win. Some tremendous rallies between Arek and Derek which was good to see." At Sonning Sports 'C' they came away with a 3 - 7 victory. Andrew and Arek both obtained doubles while Martin gained an easy treble. At TRBL 'C' a great team performance gave them a 3 - 7 win. Patrick O'Sullivan Arek and Martin all won two each. Arek gained his first ever POM. In a re-arranged match they played hosts to Sonning Sports'B' and the match ended in a draw. Patrick and Martin both won two each besides teaming up to win the doubles. For Martin after gaining 5 maximums in a row he lost to Himanshu.

In a top of the table clash **Sonning Sports 'B'** beat Tilehurst Royal British Legion 'C' 6 - 4. Cris Reynolds was the star, winning all three. Dave Chard hit a double and Harry Brough won one. At home to Sonning Com & P 'F' they won 6 - 4 thanks mainly to a back-to-form Harry who hit a fairly comfortable hat trick. Himanshu Pasbola playing in his first match of the season and Dave both picked up singles while Cris and Dave won the doubles. At O.L.O.P 'F' they had a very good win with Harry winning three and Himanshu and Brett Hastings both obtaining doubles in a 3 - 7 victory. At Tilehurst Meths 'B' Harry and Himanshu both won two each with Brett beating Arek. For Himanshu it was his very first POM.

Tilehurst Royal British Legion 'C' went down 6 - 4 at Sonning Sports 'B'. Geoff Johnson won two and Linda King gained a single. In the doubles Linda and Paul had a good win over Dave and Harry. However Paul had a bad fall in his set against Cris and had to concede but at the time he was 2-1 down in games. I hope that you will be able to play soon Paul. We then went to O.L.O.P 'F' and lost 6 - 4. Jim Brent played

well and won two besides teaming up with Derek Harrison who had to play despite having a foot problem but helped the cause by beating Alona and Jan in the doubles. Geoff managed a single and I have to say I was unlucky against Jan having match points in the 4th and 5th games. Against Reading F C who had only two players Jim continued with his fine form by winning two. Geoff and Derek who won his first set of the season won one each to give the side a 3 - 7 win. At home a weak side lost 3 - 7 to Tilehurst Meths 'B'. Geoff did well by winning two which included beating 100% Martin 5-11, 11-2, 6-11, 11-7, 12-10. Jim managed a single but I failed yet again. At Sonning Sports 'C' Geoff won all three and Derek and Jim both obtained doubles.

O.L.O.P. 'F' beat TRBL 'C' 6 - 4 thanks mainly to a great hat trick from Alona Slobodskoy. Jan Polnik did well to win two and James Smith won one by beating me. The next day they beat Milestone'B' 8 - 2. Qing Wu hit a three straight maximum by beating Colin Phillips 11-4, 11-4, 11-8 then Tony Hayden 11-8, 11-1, 15-13 and John Evans 11-8, 11-7, 11-4, and Alona also obtained a hat trick and James a single. So at the time of writing that has put them second. At home to Sonning Sports 'C' Alona hit yet another hat trick with Qing and Jan giving support by gaining singles. Alona and Jan also won the doubles. At home to Sonning Sports'B' the big shock was Alona getting a duck after only losing one previous set. Qing did well to beat Brett and Himanshu but the side lost 3 - 7.

Team 4	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1 Tilehurst Meths B	8	5	2	1	47	33	47
2 OLOP F	8	5	0	3	46	34	46
3 Tilehurst RBL C	7	4	0	3	44	26	44
4 Sonning Sports B	6	5	1	0	39	21	39
5 SC&P F	8	3	1	4	38	42	38
6 Reading FC B	8	3	1	4	37	43	37
7 Sonning Sports C	7	2	0	5	34	36	34
8 Kingfisher J	8	3	1	4	27	53	27
9 Milestone B	6	0	0	6	18	42	18

Sonning Sports 'C' played a rare match but lost 3 - 7 to the Meths. John Scott and Stephen Reader both won one each besides teaming up to win the doubles. In fact they have won 3 out of 3 and Stephen has played in all three. In John's set against Martin he did well to win the first game 11-9. In a re-arranged match





they lost 4 – 6 to Reading FC who had only two players. John and Linda Barlow won the doubles by beating Derek Anderson and Harry Edwards 11-7, 11-2, 11-4. At O.L.O.P 'F' Mike Gautrey won two and John and Linda Barlow both obtained singles. For Linda it was her first win when she beat Jan 11-5, 11-13, 4-11, 7-11. Well done. At home to TRBL'C' Stephen won 2 by beating Derek and Jim and teamed up to win the doubles with Michael Byrne.

Sonning Common & Peppard 'F' after losing their first two matches have won three on the bounce by winning at Milestone 'B'. 3 – 7. Gerry Bacon continued with his fine form by gaining a hat trick, beating Tony Hayden 5-11, 11-6, 11-4, 7-11, 5-11 then Colin Phillips 5-11, 0-11, 9-11 and John Evans 8-11, 8-11, 10-12. Mike Casserley and Alistair Scott both won two each. At home to a two man Kingfisher 'J' they were held to a draw. Mike and Marko won one each by beating Maksym. Next away to Sonning Sports 'B' they lost 6 – 4. Marko and Mike both obtained doubles. At Reading F C 'B' they went down 7 – 3 with Gerry and Mike winning one each. Gerry and Alistair had a very good doubles win over Joe and Harry, beating them 9-11, 8-11, 11-8, 14-12, 7-11.

Reading FC 'B' did well to draw with Tilehurst Meths 'B'. Joe Bull had a good night and won two as did Derek Anderson. As mentioned above Joe could have gained a hat trick. The skipper Harry Edwards won one. At home to TRBL 'C' Joe had a good night by winning two and then teaming up with Harry to win the doubles in a 3 – 7 defeat. At Sonning Sports 'C' Harry and Derek both hit trebles in a 4 – 6 victory. Next they beat Sonning Com & P 'F' 7 – 3 with Joe and Derek both obtaining hat tricks with Harry grabbing a single.

Kingfisher 'J' did well to gain a draw at Sonning Com & P 'F' despite only having two players. Peter Bennett was the star, picking up a treble by beating Mike Casserley 11-5, 3-11, 9-11, 6-11, Marko Madzar 5-11, 2-11, 6-11 and Alistair Scott 2-11, 3-11, 9-11. He also teamed up to win the doubles with Maksym Schipka who also beat Alistair.

In the home match against Milestone 'B' they won 7 – 3 with Peter, Terry Hosking and Miguel Caballero all winning two. Terry and Miguel also won the doubles.

Milestone 'B' lost 3 - 7 to Sonning Common & P 'F' John Evans did well to win two. He also teamed up

with Tony Hayden to win the doubles by beating Mike and Alistair 6-11, 10-12, 11-4, 11-6, 11-3. At O.L.O.P 'F' they lost 8 – 2 with John and Tony beating James Smith. At Kingfisher 'J' John had a great night by winning all three, beating Peter Bennett 11-7, 7-11, 5-11, 11-7, 5-11; Miguel Caballero 11-7, 4 11, 11-5, 6-11, 7-11 and Terry Hosking 2-11, 6-11, 9-11. But sadly for the team they lost 7 – 3.

P O M LEADERS

Martin Wetherell	5
Alona Slobodskoy	3
Cris Reynolds	3
Peter Bennett	3
Jim Brent	2
Joe Bull	2
Gerry Bacon	2
Harry Brough	2
Geoff Johnson	2

Finally, you must start to sort out dates for postponed matches. For you Tony vs Sonning Sports 'B' from the first week and TRBL 'C'. For Sonning Sports 'C' vs Sonning Sports 'B', this from the 30th Sept.

I will mention also that Kingfisher 'J' are playing O.L.O.P 'F' and Milestone 'B' are playing Sonning Sports 'C' after the deadline for this report, but may be included in the league table.

All the best,
Derek

DIV 4 LEADING AVERAGES

Player	Team	P	W	%
Martin Wetherell	Tilehurst Meths B	21	19	90.48%
Cris Reynolds	Sonning Sports B	9	8	88.89%
Alona Slobodskoy	OLOP F	21	17	80.95%
Derek Anderson	Reading FC B	15	12	80.00%
Harry Brough	Sonning Sports B	18	14	77.78%
Jim Brent	Tilehurst RBL C	17	13	76.47%
Geoff Johnson	Tilehurst RBL C	20	15	75.00%
Gerry Bacon	SC&P F	15	11	73.33%
Joe Bull	Reading FC B	18	13	72.22%
Peter Bennett	Kingfisher J	18	13	72.22%
Stephen Reader	Sonning Sports C	13	9	69.23%