

**READING**

**November 2019**

**& DISTRICT  
TABLE TENNIS  
ASSOCIATION**

**NEWSLETTER**

**Editor: Derek Wavell**



Paul Treadgold, our Trophies Secretary, also served as M.C. at our Presentation Evening in May, when players received rewards for their outstanding achievements during the year. In these pages they are pictured at their moment of triumph...

## New Season

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Hello, I'm back again. My retirement will have to wait a bit longer. But if YOU would like to take over the Newsletter job, let our Chairman know. Meanwhile here are the first quarter's results to take in.

The divisional results are excellent - with a different club at the head of each division. And OLOP, which had sat out a year without a team in Division One, now makes up for it with the second coming of Liam McTiernan, plus Ian Cole and the Ricks brothers, Steve Murgatroyd and Johnson Xu. So this is the new 'OLOP Premier', no less.

Do you, like me, sometimes get confused by first names? If so, look at the nearest AVERAGES panel, to see some full names. And for Div 1, look at the web site's full list of averages.

On page 13 is sad news of 'Ziko' Jerzmanski plus good news of Charlotte Binley

Almost all the players with photos on these pages won prizes at the RDTTA Presentations Day in May.

Good luck!

Derek Wavell



### Notes from our Chairman

Hello everyone and welcome to what I hope will be an enjoyable season.

At this stage I would like on your behalf to thank the committee for making sure with their hard work we were able to get the season underway.

It is a difficult job in making sure that the different teams are put in the right slots to make it go smoothly.



Can I ask you please to make some match comments when sending in your score cards because this will help the divisional fixture secretary when the newsletter is done.

As I said earlier enjoy your table tennis win or lose

All the best

Derek.

### Coming Tournaments

The **Individual Handicap** will be held at Kingfisher on **Sunday 5th January** 2020. I will be using the tournament software, as in the past years, and entry will be on line. Information will be sent out during November on how to enter. So watch out for the email.

The **Reading Closed** will be held at **Cippenham Table Tennis Club**. The Juniors will be on **Sunday 1st March** 2020 and the Seniors will be on **Sunday 8th March** 2019. Again I will be using the tournament software, and further details will be sent out in December.

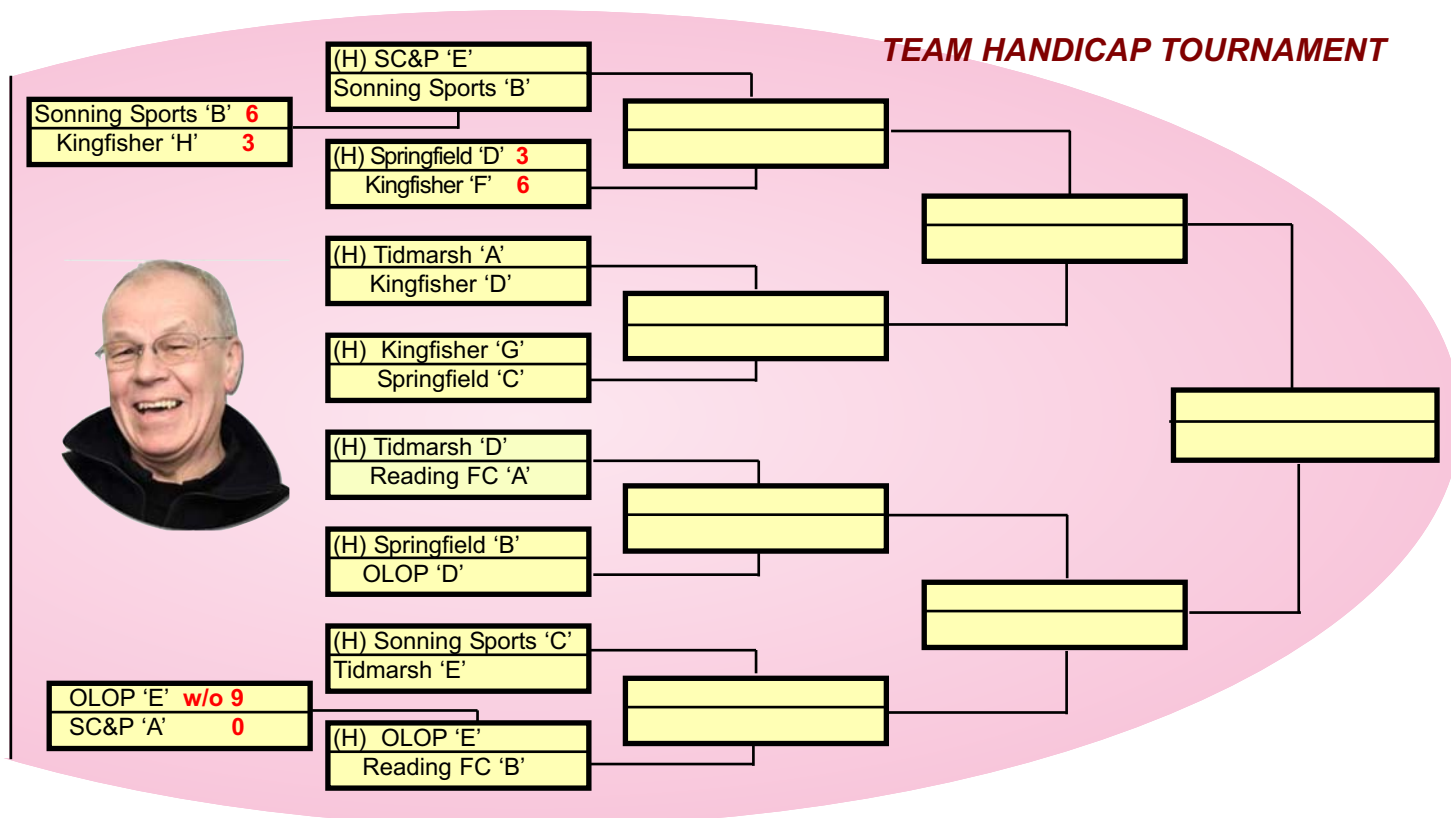
Wendy Porter

### New Address of Trophy Secretary, Paul Treadgold

Vectis, Silchester Road, Bramley RG26 5DQ 01256 959751 07821 595982

## Special Competitions 2019-20

organised by Ray Webb



## TEAM HANDICAP TOURNAMENT

There has been a considerable reduction in the number of sides entering the handicap this season with fewer clubs and, on average, less teams per club taking part.

All the teams entered look pretty balanced, making it difficult to predict who might triumph. Last season's winners Our Lady of Peace, with heavier handicaps, are likely to find the going tougher this time round, but by amalgamating the 'A' and 'D' players (under the 'D' team banner) there is the option of creative team selection. Our Lady of Peace's 'E' team, with improving youngsters, might be the team to shine this season.

Both of the Sonning Common and Peppard teams, along with Sonning Sports 'B', like OLOP 'D', have also opted for players from more than one of their league sides, giving increased options for team selection.

In the first round Sonning Sports 'B' play Kingfisher 'H' where as much as a sixteen point start could be up for grabs. The winners would travel to Sonning Common and Peppard 'E' in round two.

Sonning Common and Peppard 'A' visit Our Lady of Peace 'E' in the only other first round match, where top division one player Andy Wang would play off -17 if selected. Reading FC 'B' await the winners.

With only one place separating them in division four, Sonning Sports 'C' entertain Tidmarsh 'E' in what should be a tight match, although Tidmarsh will be eager to make amends for their defeat to Sonning in the league. Likewise Tidmarsh 'D' and Reading FC 'A', two places apart in division three, will know all about each other's game.

In what seems like a theme in this seasons competition. Kingfisher 'G' who meet Springfield 'C' are also only two league positions apart. With similar handicaps and a 6 - 4 league result this looks like being possibly the tightest match of the round.

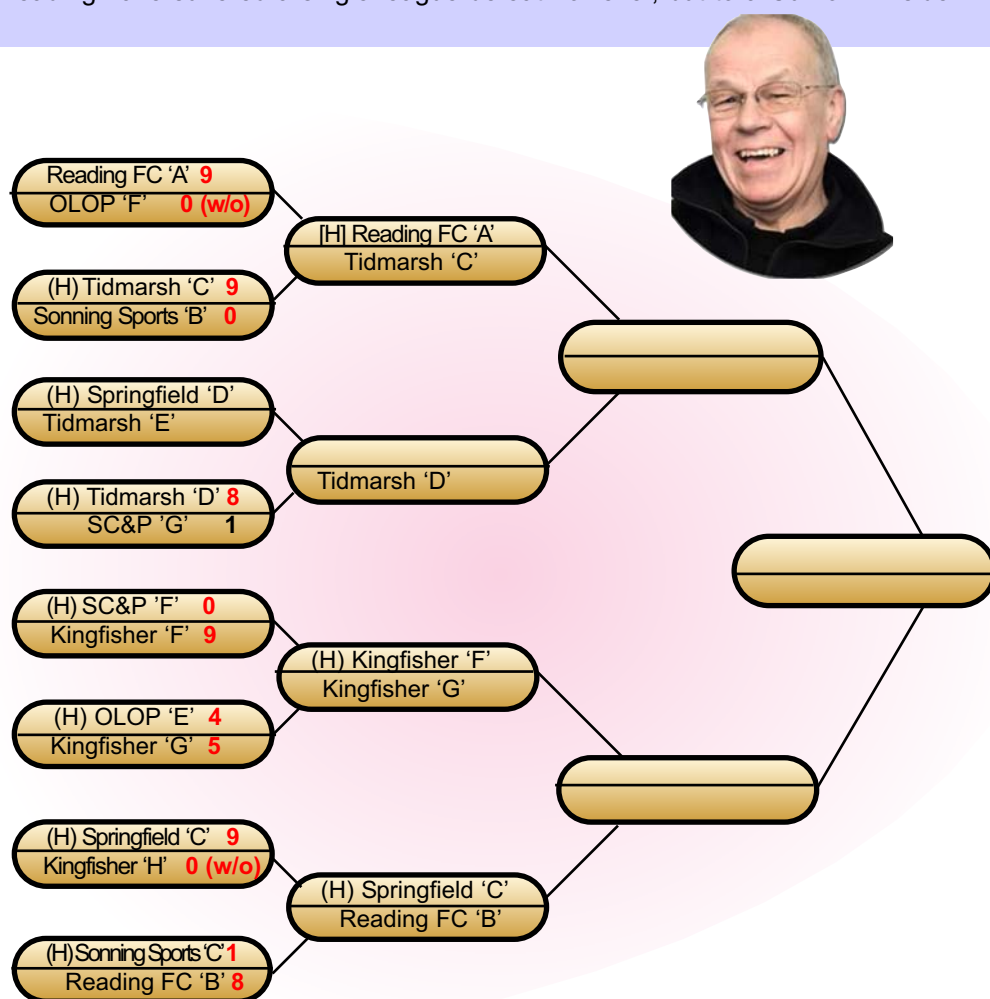
## LOWER DIVISIONS KNOCKOUT TOURNAMENT

Following early withdrawals only 14 teams will contest this season's competition.

Reigning champions Reading FC 'A', who have now also strengthened their side with the signing of Michael Childs, look like being the team to beat. In league fixtures their use of five different doubles pairings suggests they have the strength in depth necessary to retain the trophy. Reading have suffered a single league defeat however, but to a Curzon 'B' side who have not entered the competition.

Reading's main challenge looks like coming from either of fellow Division three sides Tidmarsh 'C' or Kingfisher 'G' who have also both lost just the once so far this year. Ironically Kingfisher's loss was at the hands of Tidmarsh, although when fielding an under strength line-up. Kingfisher's loss was to Milestone 'B', who like Curzon, have also not entered the competition.

Dark horses could be division four's Sonning Common and Peppard 'G', unbeaten to date following the inclusion of Simon Berry. Simon pairing up with Melvyn Lovegrove have accounted for all of Sonning's six victories in Div 4. Strength in depth might be their Achilles heel. Reading FC 'B' with only a single loss to the aforementioned Sonning, and with a 'favourable' draw look a good bet to at least reach the semi-finals. Pick of the first round ties looks like being Our Lady of Peace 'E' against Kingfisher 'G', with a mouth-watering Reading FC 'A' clash with Tidmarsh 'C' potentially on the cards in the Quarter-finals.





## R&DTTA Awards For 2018-2019

On 7th May this year, the Reading Association's annual awards were presented at the Our Lady of Peace premises. Many of the photos which appear later in this Newsletter were taken at that event. Paul Treadgold our trophies secretary, announced the prize-winners, and Nigel Maltby our Secretary presented the prizes.

NB - [blue links](#) show page N° of photo.

### LIST OF AWARDS:

#### READING CLOSED CHAMPIONSHIPS WINNERS:

Mens Singles	<b>Elson Costa</b>
Ladies Singles:	<b>Gwynne Penny</b> <a href="#">P4</a>
Mens Doubles:	<b>Mark Banks &amp; Hari Gehlot</b> <a href="#">P4</a>
Mixed Doubles	<b>Gwynne Penny &amp; Eric Van Looy</b> <a href="#">P4</a>
U21 Singles	<b>Joe Barraclough</b> <a href="#">P5</a>
U18 Boys Singles	<b>Rayaan Asghar</b>
U15 Boys Singles	<b>Jamie Barlow</b>



ERIC VAN LOOY AND GWYNNE PENNY



HARI GHELOT AND MARK BANKS

U13 Boys Singles	<b>Siva Ghanta</b> <a href="#">P5</a>
U11 Boys Singles	<b>Harry Randall</b>
Boys Doubles	<b>Joe Barraclough &amp; Jamie Barlow</b>
U15 Girls Singles	<b>Jyothirmayi Ghanta</b> <a href="#">P4</a>
Junior Girls Singles	<b>Jyothirmayi Ghanta</b> <a href="#">P4</a>
Youth Division:	<b>Mo Cook</b> <a href="#">P6</a>
Veteran Singles:	<b>Elson Costa</b>
Senior Vet Singles:	<b>Hari Gehlot</b>
Over 60s Singles:	<b>Paul Savage</b>
Ping Pong	<b>Roger Pritchard</b>
Div 1 restricted:	<b>Hari Gehlot</b> <a href="#">P4</a>
Division 2	<b>Graham Mendick</b>
Division 3	<b>Eric Van Looy</b> <a href="#">P4</a>
Division 4	<b>Ralph Phillips</b>

#### CHAMPION TEAMS OF THE SEASON

Division 1 Champions:	<b>Kingfisher 'A'</b> <a href="#">P7</a>
Runners-up:	<b>Kingfisher 'B'</b> <a href="#">P8</a>
Division 2 Champions:	<b>Springfield 'A'</b> <a href="#">P9</a>
Runners-up:	<b>Milestone 'B'</b> <a href="#">P11</a>
Division 3 Champions:	<b>Tilehurst Meths 'B'</b> <a href="#">P15</a>
Runners-up:	<b>Springfield 'B'</b>
Division 4 Champions:	<b>OLOP 'E'</b>
Runners-ups:	<b>Tilehurst Meths 'C'</b>



JYOTHIRMAYI GHANTA



SIVA GHANTA

Youth Div 1 winners: **Lions**  
Runners-up: **Avengers**  
Youth Div 2 Winners: **Strikers P5**  
Runners-up: **Panthers**  
John Freeman Trophy Winner:  
**Martin Adams P6**



TROPHY SECRETARY AND M.C.: PAUL TREADGOLD



ADI MALI (PANTHERS)



OM GORE



RAJANT SAWANT



SIVA GHANTA AND JYOTHIRMAYI GHANTA



JOE BARRACLOUGH AND EMMA RANSON





LOUISE FORSTER



MARK BANKS

Team Handicap Winners

Runners-up:

Lower Divisions Cup winners:

Runners-up:

Individual Handicap Winner

Runner-up:

Reading Senior Masters Winner:

Runner-up:

Reading Junior Masters Winner:

Runner-up:

Reading Chronicle Trophy Winner:

Standard Cup for the Most Improved Junior:

Best Junior Performance:

Alan Dines Memorial Trophy:

Harold Larcombe Sportsmanship Award: Ken Robb

OLOP 'DB' [P12](#)

Reading FCA [P14](#)

Reading FCA [P14](#)

Springfield 'B'

Mo Cook [P6](#)

Rajat Sawant

Martin Adams [P6](#)

Mark Banks [P6](#)

Rayaan Asghar

Jamie Barlow

Elson Costa

Mo Cook [P6](#)

Rajat Sawant

Louise Forster [P6](#)



NIGEL MALTBY WITH MO COOK



KEN ROBB



MARTIN ADAMS



# DIVISION ONE

by Mark Banks

**W**elcome back folks. The start of yet another year and with the points system that we have it may not favour us tbf - we shall see but a good start and everyone has played a part.

RDTTA season. Doesn't the time just fly when you're having fun hey! I noticed there were no major changes to the rules over the summer so we are still stuck with this incredibly controversial and terrible points system where there are a massive 10 points on offer every league match (sigh), I knew I should have pitched up to the AGM! You can blame me if you like. So no new rules then but definitely some new faces to freshen up the Division a bit and some old faces too, just for us nostalgic lot. The action is well under way with most teams having played 6 matches and already we can pretty much predict with some certainty the outcome of the major positions especially at the bottom with Tidmarsh B in a whole heap of trouble already and the three men from Curzon bless them who have been blighted by injury and sad fortune in the early stages. At the top we warmly welcome back the OLOP Club after an absence of a couple of years and one of their players isn't too shabby tbf and of course the mighty Kingfisher A who look like they will be pushed hard to retain the title this time around. Hope you're enjoying it so far. Beats staying in at home anyway – even I've decided to sign up again. Not sure for how many matches though so apologies if we don't get to play. Graham – you lucky thing!



**MVP: Hari Gehlot**

Dizzy times then for **Sonning Common & Peppard 'B'** who are flying high in 2nd place at the moment and who are no doubt contenders for most improved team this term. Andy is proving that he wasn't a one season wonder and is currently sitting proudly at the top of the averages. OK so he hasn't played KFA or B or even Neil Hurford as yet but already there is an argument to say he is certainly in the top 6 players in this league and I'm ranked at 4 so he's gotta be

Love & Peace x

Back in familiar territory are **Kingfisher 'A'** who are not only not content in winning the league every year they have now set the record of most players registered for a single team! Keeping everybody happy will be the key here without hampering their chances of success so Hariiiiiiiii definitely has a task on his hands like no other. I'm not gonna name them all as I've literally got to get this finished before Christmas but its brilliant to welcome some new faces to the Division like Dan, Ben & Ross and an old face too like Tony's as well as some former favourites like Dmitry and even yours truly now. Big threat from OLOP this



ANDY WANG (RIGHT) WITH 'JOE JOES' BARRACLOUGH

blimmin good then right? Haha. Nigel once again has started this season where he finished off last season – basically winning matches – one leg he even won 11-0 – incredible scenes and Brian and Jez are both more than active members of the squad too. They will be desperate to finish above the A team and I have a feeling that they will.

**MVP: Andy Wang**

They're back! The all new and imaginatively titled **OLOP PREMIER** return to D1 with a star studded team to grace any local league side anywhere in Britain. I may be wrong but I think they have the highest ranked local league player in the country playing for them and Big Mc will obviously win every match plus the doubles whenever he plays giving Cole, the Ricks twins and Murgy a 4 nil start to build on and with their talents it's clear to see why they will be right up there contending the title this season. Johnson Xu is still learning his trade at this level but already has some fine performances to his name and will definitely be one to improve in the 2nd half. A bit like KFA it will all be about selecting the right team for the right



KFA: SAGAR SAWANT, HARI GEHLOT, DMITRI KHAKHAMOV





matches and how often Liam wants to play. Deffo gonna be interesting!

**MVP: Liam McTiernan**

		PL	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1	Kingfisher A	6	6	0	0	45	15	45
2	SC&P B	6	3	3	0	37	23	37
3	OLOP Premier	5	4	1	0	36	14	36
4	Kingfisher C	6	3	1	2	33	27	33
5	Kingfisher B	6	2	2	2	31	29	31
6	Kennet Valley A	6	2	2	2	29	31	29
7	SC&P A	6	2	2	2	28	32	28
8	Tidmarsh A	6	1	2	3	24	36	24
9	Springfield A	5	1	2	2	21	29	21
10	SC&P C	5	1	0	4	21	29	21
11	Curzon Club A	6	1	0	5	21	39	21
12	Tidmarsh B	5	0	1	4	14	36	14

A team who did so successfully last season and who, despite being in 4th place, are finding the going a little bit tougher this are **KFC**. Look, they are still more than fine and will finish top half but they haven't quite been having it all their own way and after the standards they set last time around they will be keen to improve again just a little bit. Safely say that Nigel, Alan and Phil will finish with averages over 60% but it was Grant who played

too good a player for that not to happen soon. New bat but same results for Martin who as ever is sweeping aside all before him – best in the league bar Liam and a welcome return to Justin who pulls on a KFB shirt once again after a couple of years in Basingstoke. Richard is definitely playing better so far this season than last too. They are not in it for the prizes this year but to enjoy themselves with a couple of trips to the pub too no doubt – just don't forget me guys and girls!

**MVP: Martin Adams**

Pretty good start from Kennet Valley Free Church 'A' with new star signing Graham in good early form. It's like having Trevor Organ back in the League with all that shouting but at least he doesn't cheer when he wins a point in the knock up like Trev used to, at least not yet anyway! Big squad here

at KV so rotation has been evident so far. Julian set a new record the other day when a whole 45mins passed before he messaged me to comment on the updated league table but he too is playing well enough and Jordan and Cath too will continue to win matches at this level. Currently 6th – could go even higher as they have the players to do so and they will definitely have their moments against the big guns.

**MVP: Graham Mendick**

One team who are missing a couple of key players this term are **Sonning Common & Peppard 'A'** as Joe Joes is all grown up now and is at Uni (jeez time goes so quick) and Gary is busy coaching so they have effectively been a 3 man team so much so that JR even gets selected for the doubles these days. They are doing OK though I guess. Neil and JR provide the wins and Malcolm provides the er, jokes. That's kinda how it works over at Sonning A these days. Big danger they will finish behind Sonning B for the first time in living memory though. Massive danger in fact. Ouch! That's gonna hurt if it happens!

**MVP: Neil Hurford**

Steady start for **Tidmarsh 'A'** who find themselves just below mid-table and that's probably where they will end up finishing too. Once again our favourite tree rat has been flying from branch to branch picking up victories along with his nuts along the way with a couple of maximums too at the season start. Team Webb have both been on the scoresheet early doors and Simon and Lee too



KINGFISHER 'B' - MARK BANKS, MARTIN ADAMS AND RICHARD ROSINSKI

really well and who got their solitary victory over Richard Rosinski in the Derby match recently.

**MVP: Nigel Keedy**

A couple of bright new faces then for **Kingfisher 'B'** who have signed up a couple of Dorset's finest namely Emma & Lily and both have settled in very well to the team and the Division. Emma already has some notable wins and Lily has been frustrated that she hasn't quite got over the line as yet – she's





ANTHONY 'SQUIRREL' BAKER

have found themselves in the winners enclosure on occasion. This team will be fine. No chance of relegation so they can happily enjoy their matches and their small personal successes

along the way.

**MVP: Squirrel**

Nice to see some new faces as **Springfield 'A'** come up to D1 along with blast from the past Graham Diplock who has started the season in good form and will probably be the major difference between survival and a swift return to D2. Definitely helps having a 75% average player in your ranks and it's something that Springfield have that their relegation rivals don't have. By no means a one man team

**LEADING AVERAGES**

Player	Team	P	W	%
Andy Wang	SC&P B	15	15	100.00%
Martin Adams	Kingfisher B	15	14	93.33%
Hari Gehlot	Kingfisher A	12	11	91.67%
Graham Mendick	Kennet Valley A	12	11	91.67%
Philip Mead	Kingfisher C	9	8	88.89%
Ian Cole	OLOP Premier	9	8	88.89%
Steve Murgatroyd	OLOP Premier	12	9	75.00%
Graham Diplock	Springfield A	12	9	75.00%
Anthony Baker	Tidmarsh A	15	10	66.67%
Alan Cummings	Kingfisher C	15	10	66.67%
Neil Hurford	SC&P A	15	10	66.67%
Nigel Maltby	SC&P B	9	6	66.67%
Tony Stead	Kingfisher A	9	6	66.67%
Denise Weller	SC&P C	9	6	66.67%
Matthew Stone	SC&P C	12	7	58.33%
Jason Roberts	SC&P A	18	10	55.56%

they will just about have too much in hand but the matches against Curzon will clearly be crucial.

**MVP: Matt Stone**

Not the start they would have liked down at **Curzon 'A'** who are looking like they are in a whole heap of trouble this season and some of it hasn't been of their own doing with injuries that have unfortunately hampered them along the way. They will keep trying though. Always tough when it's just a 3 man team and somebody is unavailable but they still have a smile on their faces and that's the main thing right, so good luck to Pete, John and Jon. Still a chance to survive despite what Mark Banks thinks!

**MVP: Jon Willis**

A really tough start then for Tidmarsh'B' who even at this early stage look like nothing can prevent them from the drop – even when Duncan returns in the New Year. Despite that John has played some good stuff with 6 wins so far and both Mike and Barry have picked up a handful of victories here and there as have Dale and François. A handful is not going to be enough though I'm afraid and its going to be a loooooooong season for the boys from Tidmarsh.

**MVP: John Golding**



SPRINGFIELD A - ADAM SHEEN, PHIL BURKE AND LUDOVIC COUILLARD

though and Phil has also started well with half a dozen or so wins to his name with Adam chipping in with a few too. They should just about be OK I think.

**MVP: Graham Diplock**

A team who will be looking over their shoulders just a little bit are **Sonning Common & Peppard 'C'** who have done OK so far and will just need to keep that going to keep Curzon in their trail. Matt S and Denise have been their main performers so far but Tim and Matt I have both chipped in along the way too. I think



# DIVISION TWO

by John Willcocks

Welcome to the new season in Division 2. Unlike last year when there were a lot of new teams and a new points system this season is probably a bit more predictable with a number of returning teams.

The league table is already showing how the season may well pan out with the top five teams opening up a gap between themselves and those in mid table. There is then a closely bunched group of teams and two who are adrift at the bottom, although one of those has two matches in hand so they could close in on the group of teams above them.

I have made my usual, not always very accurate, predictions about where I think each team will finish. However, with some teams reliant on a small number of players and others having large squads, player availability issues and squad selection decisions could well be important in deciding the final positions.

**OLOP 'A'** have won five of their six matches with their only defeat being a 6 – 4 reverse against Kingfisher 'E' in a match that featured a large number of very close sets. They have a strong squad with all of their players averaging at least 67% and two nearer 90% including Darek Kaminski who is on 92%. They have yet to play Tilehurst Meths 'A' and Sonning Sports 'A' and those matches will be a good test of their promotion credentials.

**Prediction – 2nd**

**Best Recent Performance - Ben Carless with an excellent maximum in the win over SC&P 'D'**

**Sonning Sports 'A'** have also won five out of their six matches with their defeat coming against likely title challengers Tilehurst Meths 'A'. Due to an injury to Keith Machin they have had to rely on the same three players but with Paul Savage and Nick Sears carrying on with the good form they showed last season the team have had a great start. Bob Woodmansee has also been con-



sistently picking up wins and he got an excellent maximum against Pangbourne WMC which included his first ever victory over John Simmonds whom he started playing against in 1983. A case of 'if at first you don't succeed' etc. They should stay in the top three all season but their promotion prospects may rest on how they do when one of their big two players is missing

**Prediction – 3rd**

**Best Recent Performance – Nick Sears with a three-straight win against Eric Van Looy**

**SC&P 'D'** have had five good results and have only lost once. A bit like Sonning Sports 'A' they have so far been reliant on the same three players with Mark Jones having only played once. However, with Alan Mollett and Jon Abbott well up in the averages and good support from their other players they should continue to stay high up in the table but perhaps they are not quite strong enough to finish in the top two.

**Prediction – 4th**

**Best Recent Performance – Jon Abbott with three comeback wins in getting a maximum against OLOP 'C'**

**OLOP 'B'** have lost to two of the top three teams but have won their other four matches. They have a pretty strong all-round squad and will have a good season but like SC&P 'D' they are probably not quite strong enough to mount a promotion challenge.

**Prediction – 5th**

**Best Recent Performance – Tom Lewis with a great maximum against Milestone 'A'**

**Tilehurst Meths 'A'** have had two matches postponed and when they have played their matches in hand they are likely to be in the top two. They have had three very comfortable wins plus a slightly closer one against Sonning Sports 'A'. With Eric Van Looy and Keith Winter both averaging



ERIC VAN LOOY



over 90% and with good support from Nigel Rowland and Phil Jones they are likely to mount a strong challenge for the title

**Prediction – 1st**

**Best Recent Performance – Keith Winter with**

**Milestone ‘A’** are a team that your DFS thought could mount a promotion challenge but things have not worked out that way so far. Despite five of their six matches being against teams in the middle/bottom half of the division they have only managed one win, against OLOP ‘D’. Dave Sanket and Zoltan Kelemen have both won a reasonable number of sets, although not as many as I expected, but their other players have struggled a bit. I still think they are likely to do better as the season goes on but they are unlikely to finish higher than mid table.

**Prediction – 6th**

**Best Recent Performance Dave Sanket with a three-straight win over Nick Sears**



MILESTONE ‘A’ - DAVE SANKET, ARUN RAJAGOPAL AND TONY HAYDEN

**a three straight maximum including victories over Paul Savage and Nick Sears in the win against Sonning Sports ‘A’**

**Kingfisher ‘D’** have had a solid start to the season with three good wins, a close defeat to Sonning Sports ‘A’ and a heavier one against the leaders. With three of their five players looking like they will get very healthy averages and with their other players giving good support they should maintain a mid to upper mid-table position

**Prediction – 7th**

**Best Recent Performance – David Wells with a comeback win in a marathon set against Dave Holt.**



GWYNNE PENNY OF KINGFISHER ‘E’

		PL	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1	OLOP A	6	5	0	1	47	13	47
2	Sonning Sports A	6	5	0	1	42	18	42
3	Tilehurst Meths A	5	4	1	0	38	12	38
4	SC&P D	6	4	1	1	37	23	37
5	OLOP B	6	4	0	2	35	25	35
6	OLOP C	6	1	2	3	29	31	29
7	Kingfisher D	5	3	0	2	26	24	26
8	Milestone A	6	1	1	4	26	34	26
9	Kingfisher E	6	2	1	3	22	38	22
10	Springfield B	6	0	2	4	18	42	18
11	Pangbourne WMC	4	1	0	3	12	28	12
12	OLOP D	6	0	0	6	8	52	8

**OLOP ‘C’** have been hit hard by the illness and then tragic death of Ziko Jerzmanski. This means they are now reliant on the same three players which is proving to be very difficult especially as Dave Holt and Dave Godfrey also play in another league. Consequently, they have played matches with reserves or only two players and have had to postpone one. Alistair Richardson has been the mainstay of the team and has had some good wins and when the two Dave’s and Alistair all play they are a difficult team to beat. Even with their problems fielding

## LEADING AVERAGES

Player	Team	P	W	%
Eric Van Looy	Tilehurst Meths A	14	13	92.86%
Darek Kaminski	OLOP A	12	11	91.67%
Paul Savage	Sonning Sports A	18	16	88.89%
Thomas Lewis	OLOP B	9	8	88.89%
Benedict Carless	OLOP A	15	13	86.67%
Nick Sears	Sonning Sports A	18	15	83.33%
Alan Mollett	SC&P D	15	12	80.00%
Jonathan Abbott	SC&P D	18	14	77.78%
Dave Sanket	Milestone A	18	12	66.67%
Ralph Philips	OLOP A	12	8	66.67%
Chris West	OLOP A	9	6	66.67%
Clive Gold	Kingfisher D	11	7	63.64%
David Holt	OLOP C	12	7	58.33%
Binit Bhaskar	OLOP B	18	10	55.56%
Abhay Gore	OLOP B	18	10	55.56%
Zoltan Kelemen	Milestone A	15	8	53.33%

teams they should be able to do enough to stay well clear of the relegation fight.

### Prediction – 8th

**Best Recent Performance - Reserve Mo Cook with a three-straight win over Clive Perry.**

**Kingfisher 'E'** have only won one of their six matches and they find themselves closer to the bottom of the division than they would have liked.

However, they have played a number of the stronger teams so they may be in a bit of a false position. Roger Pritchard has a 100% record but he has only played in two matches and Savva Christodoulou has had a solid start to the season. The rest of their squad have struggled a bit but they should be good enough to stay away from the relegation fight, especially if Roger plays reasonably regularly

### Prediction – 7th

**Best Recent Performance – Roger Pritchard with a three-straight maximum against Milestone 'A' when he only dropped 42 points all night**

**Springfield 'B'** are yet to win a match, having had two draws and four defeats. They have managed to get useful draws against Milestone 'A' and SC&P 'D' but have had heavy defeats against two of the stronger sides. Stephen

Leggett has played solidly and Rob Wilkie has picked up some useful wins but their other players have struggled. They could easily find themselves in a relegation fight but they might just be strong enough to keep clear of that.

### Prediction 10th

**Best Recent Performance – Stephen Leggett with a very hard-fought maximum against Milestone 'A'**

**Pangbourne WMC** have only played four times so may be in a slightly false position. They have suffered a heavy defeat against Sonning Sports 'A' but their other matches have been fairly close with their one win coming against Milestone 'A'. They only have three players so they need to hope that they do not get any injury or availability issues.

Clive Taylor has had a steady start to the season but John Simmonds has not won as often as I would have expected - could this be down to the varifocals, John? Leroy Wilson had a slow start to the season but he did well to win two against Milestone 'A'

### Prediction 11th

**Best Recent Performance – Leroy Wilson with a three straight victory over Dave Sanket**



MARK CARLESS OF OLOP 'D'

**OLOP 'D'** have had a very difficult start to the season losing all six of their matches heavily or fairly heavily. They have played a number of the stronger sides so there is hope that they could pick up some improved results when they play against the teams around them in the table. All of their players should benefit from playing in Division 2 and they should improve as the season progresses but it's difficult to see how they would be able to get out of the bottom two.

### Prediction 12th

**Best Recent Performance – Graham Stark with a three-straight win over Jon Abbott**



Many of us know Charlotte Binley as a player in Curzon 'B', but we may not know that a few years ago she was desperately ill, and her life was saved by a transplant (not the heart!). To help her recovery, she trained for the Transplant Games...

### Charlotte Binley at the Transplant Games

During the summer of 2019, in July the world transplant games were held in the lively North Eastern U.K city of Newcastle. The transplant games have been growing in scale over the last few years and they draw more and more competitors each year. Charlotte Binley was playing in her second world games after competing in the table tennis event in Malaga in 2017 where she came away with a bronze medal in the singles.

Again this year in Charlotte's 18-29 age group there was some tough competition in the shape of a strong Iranian woman as well as athletes from Austria and the Netherlands along with other G.B. athletes. The 25-strong G.B. table tennis team was being coached by Charlotte's fiancé Tom Maynard.

In the singles event Charlotte started strongly by comfortably beating her G.B. compatriots, 3-0 in both cases. She followed this up with two more very strong performances, again not dropping a set against the Austrian or Dutch woman players. As the competition played out it became clear that the gold medal would be contested between two stand-out women, Charlotte herself and the Iranian competitor who had beaten Charlotte in Malaga 2 years earlier.



TOM MAYNARD WITH CHARLOTTE

In the final, Charlotte didn't get off to the best start, losing the first game 11-7; however she re-focused and was able to get back level with an 11-5 second game. From there she didn't look back, going from strength to strength and winning the next two games with some fantastic serve and forehand topspin combinations which proved too much for her opponent to handle. So, Charlotte had her revenge and the title of World Transplant Games Champion 2019! Charlotte also went on to win a silver medal in the women's doubles event with fellow G.B athlete Jade Carr. This capped off a brilliant event for Charlotte who of course was delighted with the tournament and how she played, particularly in the final where she found her best form when it really mattered!

T.M.



### In Memory: Zdzislaw Jerzmski

Zdzislaw - known variously in the league as 'Ziko' and sometimes 'Big Ziko' - died unexpectedly on 9th October, after a sharp battle with lung cancer and then a brain tumour.

He had played for OLOP for many years, both in the Reading and Bracknell leagues. A larger than life player, both in size and heart, it is very hard for me to believe that he is gone.

Ziko's English was limited. His special gift - which he insisted on bestowing on all his opponents - was a massive straight-armed smash, which he could do both on forehand and backhand. When it didn't work - as it often didn't, at the start of a match - he would just keep giving it another chance, squandering points until it did work - and from then on, there were few players who could get back even one of them.

But because he had a kind heart, I noticed he imposed a private limitation on himself - against ladies, or white-haired men, he would smash only against an incoming smash.

I played with him initially in the Bracknell league, in what was usually a team of Poles apart from myself - Ziko, Chris Szczygiel and Jan Polnik. We always did better than our abilities justified - sustained by his great optimism and good humour. He made me feel welcome, and like a real Pole, which I won't forget in a hurry.

He leaves a wife, two daughters, one son and a grandchild that tragically he never saw or held in his arms.

by Derek Wavell

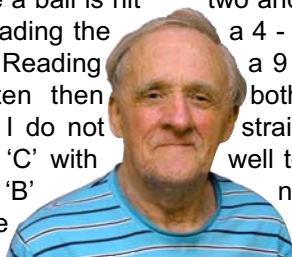




# DIVISION THREE

by Derek Harrison

Hello everyone, welcome to a start of a new season which I hope that you will enjoy. Before a ball is hit I will give my thoughts on the teams leading the way. At the top providing Jazz Dhillon and ex Reading Closed Champion Michael Childs play often then Reading F C would win the league however I do not think they will, so I will plump for Tidmarsh 'C' with Milestone 'B' and Curzon 'B' (yes I do mean the 'B' team and not the 'C') chasing them all of the way. At the bottom I can see hard seasons for Curzon 'C', Kingfisher 'F' and Sonning Sports and Springfield 'C'.



three at Kingfisher 'F' and with Thereasa Watson winning two and also teaming up to win the doubles they gained a 4 - 6 win. At home to Springfield 'C' they romped to a 9 - 1 victory. Thereasa Watson and Terry Hardie both hit trebles. For Thereasa they were all three-straight. Dave E won two. At Milestone Thereasa did well to win two with reserve Steve Andrews gaining a nice single in a 7 - 3 defeat. At home to Tidmarsh 'C' they lost 2 - 8 with Thereasa beating Richard and David. At Curzon 'C' they won against a two

My pre-season favourites to win the league **Tidmarsh 'C'** had an easy 2 - 8 win at Springfield 'C' with Ian Wu gaining a treble. Simon Craig and Richard Hudson won two each. The next match saw them go down to Milestone 'B' 4 - 6 with Spencer Harvey and Simon both gaining doubles. They then bounced back by beating club-mates 2 - 8. Spencer hit a very good treble while Richard and David Sheppard obtained doubles. At home to a two man Kingfisher 'G' team they won 10 - 0. Dave, Richard and Spencer won two each. Next at Tilehurst Meths 'B' came another 0 - 10 victory with Ian, Spencer and Simon doing the business.

**Reading F C 'A'** had a fine 7 - 3 win over Curzon 'B' with

as expected Mike Childs gaining a fairly easy treble. Anthony Alleyne also won all three and Wayne Alleyne hit a single. At O.L.O.P 'E' Mike gained another maximum with Anthony winning two and Wayne one helping them win 3 - 7. They then recorded the first 10 - 0 win of the season by beating Sonning Sports 'B'. The

hat trick men were Mike, Wayne and Anthony. At Kingfisher 'F' yet another big win this time 1 - 9 with hat tricks from Mike and Anthony. Wayne got a nice double. Next match saw the first appearance of Jazz Dhillon who won all three in straight games. Mike and Anthony also won three each to help them win 10 - 0 against Springfield 'C'

Last season Dave Edwards started with a maximum and in **Tidmarsh 'D's'** first match he repeated this by winning all

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1 Reading FCA	5	5	0	0	43	7	43
2 Tidmarsh C	5	4	0	1	40	10	40
3 Curzon Club B	6	4	1	1	35	25	35
4 Tidmarsh D	6	3	0	3	31	29	31
5 Milestone B	5	4	0	1	30	20	30
6 OLOPE	6	2	1	3	30	30	30
7 Tilehurst Meths B	6	2	1	3	28	32	28
8 Kingfisher F	6	2	1	3	26	34	26
9 Kingfisher G	5	4	0	1	24	26	24
10 Curzon Club C	4	1	0	3	17	23	17
11 Sonning Sports B	6	0	0	6	14	46	14
12 Springfield C	6	0	0	6	12	48	12

player team with Dave E, Thereasa and Terry all beating Jim. At Kingfisher 'G' they lost 6 - 4 with Terry winning two and Dave E and Dave Smith both gaining singles.

**Milestone 'B'** started by winning 4 - 6 at Tidmarsh 'C'. Chris Collins was in top form, winning all three besides teaming up with Shawnik Thakur to win the doubles. Shawnik and Olly Bonser won one each. At home to Tidmarsh 'D' Chris gained another hat trick with Shawnik winning two and Olly picking up a single to help them win 7 - 3. They then made it 3 out of 3 by beating Tilehurst Meths 'B' 7 - 3 with Chris obtaining another treble. Olly hit a double while reserve John Evans had a nice win over Patrick. At Curzon 'B' without Chris they slipped to a 6 - 4 defeat with John Evans, Olly and a welcome return to captain John Crosfield after injury all gaining singles by beating John Walker

**Kingfisher 'G'** started with a close 4 - 6 win at Sonning Sports 'B'. Andrew Adair came up trumps by winning all three. Giving him support were Gabor Radnoti and Didier Garçon who won one each. Andrew and Didier also won the doubles. At home to Kingfisher 'F' they won 6 - 4 but it was because the 'F' team put up a player who was not registered. For the record Andrew won two. Captain Nils Wedi returned to the side and helped himself to a treble with Andrew picking up a double to help them beat Springfield 'C' 4 - 6. The doubles was tight winning 12-14 in the fifth end. At Tidmarsh 'C' a two man team lost 10 - 0. They then beat Tidmarsh 'D' 6 - 4. Nils hit a good treble with Andrew gaining a double.



WAYNE ALLEYNE OF READING FCA



**Curzon 'B'** lost 7 – 3 at Reading F C. Nick Lean and Kate Maksimenko both beat Wayne Alleyne besides teaming up to win the doubles. At home to O.L.O.P Kate hit a treble with Linda King and Carine Bey both gaining singles.

Linda and Kate also won the doubles. I wonder in this match if it was the first time ever that all six players were female? For Curzon, Kate, Linda and Carine and for O.L.O.P Wendy, Louise and Rishika Desai. At Sonning Sports 'C' they came away with a 3 – 7 victory.

Kate did well to gain a hat trick with Nick winning two and Linda picking up a single. Nick and Kate won the doubles. At home to Kingfisher 'F' Nick had a great night and gained a very good hat trick especially against Alan who had a tricky serve. In the doubles he and Linda combined well to beat Alan and Eric. John Walker had a tough evening but battled on gamely. At Springfield 'C' they came away with a 2 – 8 victory thanks to trebles from Nick who was the player of the match and Kate. John won his first set of the season. At home to Milestone 'B' Carine and Charlotte Binley were the stars with both obtaining hat tricks to give them a 6 – 4 win.



LAST YEAR'S TILEHURST METHS 'B' - PATRICK O'SULLIVAN, ERIC VAN LOOY, NIGEL ROWLAND AND MARTIN WETHERELL

against Curzon 'C' and with Wendy gaining a double this helped to a 6 – 4 win. At Sonning Sports 'B' Mo hit a very good three straight hat trick and with Louise winning all three for the first time this season and Harry Bullock gaining his first win of the season this helped them win 2 – 8. At home to Kingfisher 'F' Louise did well to win two. Wendy and Harry managed singles in a 4 – 6 defeat.

Re-formed **Tilehurst Meths 'B'** were held to a draw at O.L.O.P. 'E' thanks to doubles from Martin Wetherell and Jes Eassom with Mike Williams picking up a single. At home to Sonning Sports 'B' they won 9 – 1 with hat tricks from Martin and Mike. Jes weighed in with two. Jes and Mike also won the doubles. At Kingfisher 'F' Patrick O'Sullivan played in his first match of the season and won two by beating Peter Bennett and Alan Yeung. Michael and Martin both gained singles in a 6 – 4 defeat. Mike then had a good night by winning all three against Springfield 'C'. Jes informs me that he played with a lot of patience in his sets. Jes himself, who is playing left handed due to a shoulder problem, won two while Patrick hit a single in the sides 7 – 3 win. At Milestone they lost 7 – 3 but Martin had a good match by winning two. Mike won the other set. At home to Tidmarsh 'C' they crashed to a 0 – 10 defeat. Mind you there were a lot of close sets which went the way of Tidmarsh. Mike was leading Spencer 11-8, 11-9, but then lost 9-11, 9-11, 9-11. Also against Simon he was two games up and lost in five.

**Sonning Sports 'B'** only lost 4 – 6 to Kingfisher 'G' despite having to play a reserve - fair do's, he was Stephen Reader who won the opening set by beating Gabor 11-8, 11-8, 11-5. New signing Brett Hastings who had come from Australia lost to Andrew but bounced back and beat Gabor. At the doubles the score was 3 – 3 and when Kingfisher won that all seemed lost however in set eight Brett beat Didier 7-11, 11-9, 11-9, 11-9 - phew, a bit tight. The Sports lost the last two sets but they did themselves proud. At Tilehurst Meths 'B' my old mate Dave Chard won the only set by beating Jes in the first match of the evening 11-5, 6-11, 11-8, 10-12 after being 10-8 down. Then Jes served into the net 5-11 after which it all went downhill and they lost the next nine. Mind you Brett had his money's worth by playing in 20 games, all 5-game sets. At home to Curzon



MO COOK AND HARRY BULLOCK

Mo Cook has started with a great three straight treble to help O.L.O.P. 'E' share the spoils with Tilehurst Meths 'B'. He beat Mike Williams 11-6, 11-1, 11-2 then Jes Eassom 11-4, 11-1, 11-4 and Martin Wetherell 11-1, 11-4, 11-3. What a performance! So very well done Mo. Louise Forster had a nice in over Mike Williams. Harry Bullock and Mo won the doubles. At Curzon 'B' they only went down 6 – 4 with Wendy Porter and Louise both winning two. Then Mo won 5 out of 6 but the hat trick was playing up in the second division. He did win two of three against Reading F C and only went down to Mike Childs 11-9, 9-11, 16-14, 11-13, 6-11 so well done Mo. Wendy gained a single in a 3 –

'B' they went down 3 – 7. In the opening set Himanshu Pasbola played Kate and lost the first two games 5-11, 7-11 then found some form by winning the next 14-12 only for Kate to come back 7-11. Dave then played an in-form Nick and lost three straight. In set three Cris played great TT and beat Linda 11-2, 11-4, 11-9. Next, Kate beat Dave 7-11, 7-11, 7-11. In set six came a surprise when Cris beat Nick 11-5, 8-11, 15-13, 11-4. In my opinion this has to be Cris's best ever win. The doubles saw Cris and Dave take on Kate and Nick and Cris informed me this was the best doubles he has played in with all four players playing great TT. In set nine Cris won the first game against Kate 12-10 and was 6-0 up in the second only for Kate to come back to win 14-16, 10-12, 5-11. YOU MUST HAVE BEEN PLAYING WELL CRIS. At Reading F C 'A' they crashed to a 10 – 0 defeat although Brett took Wayne very close. No further comment needed. They then played O.L.O.P 'E' and went down 2 – 8. Sadly my friend Dave Chard suffered a knee problem in the opening set against Harry Bullock and as a result lost three straight. In set two Cris was 2-1 up against Louise Forster



LOUISE FORSTER OF OLOP 'E'

but went down in 5 games. In set four Cris won the first set for his team by beating Harry in four games. Dave then played Mo and lost three straight but I have to say a fit Dave would have had a problem. In set six Himanshu won the first game 12-10 after being 7-10 down but Louise came back to win in four. In match eight despite playing good table tennis Cris lost to Mo in straight games. Set nine saw Himanshu win his first set of the season by beating Harry. At home to Curzon 'C' they lost a close match 4 – 6. In set one Cris took on Paul Treadgold and was 2 games to one up by playing good table tennis but Paul took the remaining two games. In set two Brett came from two games down to beat Jim Brent. In set five Cris played Peter Hillier and attempted to force him on his back hand with moderate success but Peter won in four. In the doubles which was probably the best match of the evening the scores were as follows 7-11, 7-11, 11-2, 11-5, 13-11 after Cris and Brett were 5-10 down to Peter and Paul. In set 8 Brett gained his second win of the night by beating Peter and in the last set of the night Cris beat Jim in four.

**Kingfisher 'F'** went down 4 - 6 at home to Tidmarsh 'D' with Eric Holmes winning two and Peter Bennett and Alan Yeung both winning one. At the 'G' team they lost 6 – 4 when they had won 2 – 8 but due to playing an unregistered player 4 sets were chalked off. Alan and Ruben Hernandez won the sets. Next came Tilehurst Meths 'B' and they won 6 – 4 thanks mainly to a Ruben maximum with Peter giving him good support by winning two. They also teamed up to win the doubles. At Curzon 'B' Eric did well to win two as did Alan

## LEADING AVERAGES

Player	Team	P	W	%
Mike Childs	Reading FC A	15	15	100.00%
Christopher Collins	Milestone B	9	9	100.00%
Tony Alleyne	Reading FC A	15	14	93.33%
Mo Cook	OLOP E	12	11	91.67%
Spencer Harvey	Tidmarsh C	11	10	90.91%
Kate Maksimenko	Curzon Club B	12	10	83.33%
Andrew Adair	Kingfisher G	11	9	81.82%
Simon Craig	Tidmarsh C	9	7	77.78%
Ruben Hernandez	Kingfisher F	9	7	77.78%
Paul Treadgold	Curzon Club C	12	9	75.00%
Nick Lean	Curzon Club B	12	9	75.00%
Thereasa Watson	Tidmarsh D	14	10	71.43%
Louise Forster	OLOP E	12	8	66.67%
Shawnik Thakur	Milestone B	9	6	66.67%
Jason King	Springfield C	12	7	58.33%
Wayne Alleyne	Reading FC A	12	7	58.33%

while Muharrem Aydin picked up a nice single in a 5 – 5 draw. They then lost 1 – 9 to Reading F C 'A' with Alan beating Wayne. They then had a nice 4 – 6 win at O.L.O.P.'E' with a good team performance with Sandeep Burande winning two and Peter and Ruben both picking up singles.

**Springfield 'C'** had a hard match to start with and went down 2 – 8 to Tidmarsh 'C'. Captain Jason King had good wins over Simon Craig and Richard Hudson. At Tidmarsh 'D' Marcello Caramma won the only set by beating Dave Edwards in a 9 – 1 defeat. At home to Kingfisher 'G' they went down 4 – 6 with Jason winning two and Marcello and Oliver Delas winning one each. Next at Tilehurst Meths Jason managed a double and Oliver a single in a 7 – 3 defeat. At home to Curzon 'B' Jason and Johnny Worrall were the only scorers in a 2 – 8 defeat. At a strong Reading F C 'A' without Jason they lost 10 – 0.

**Curzon 'C'** at last played a match but went down 6 – 4 at O.L.O.P 'E'. New signing Peter Hillier did well by winning two. Jim Brent and also a new signing Paul Treadgold both won one each. At home to Tidmarsh 'D' we lost 3 – 7 despite Paul getting a great hat trick but sadly we only had two players. We then played our third match and won 4 – 6 at Sonning Sports 'B' thanks mainly to a great treble from Paul. On saying that, Peter did well to win two and Jim won a vital single.

At this early stage I list the joint leaders in the Player of the Match: Mo Cook, Mike Childs, Chris Collins all with 3.

Finally I have to say in all of the year's I have been s DFS this is the worst year for errors on the score card. So can you please check it is OK before sending. Many times scores are not correct and are hard to read and also doubles are not listed. Thank you.

All the best,

Derek

STOP PRESS: Milestone 'B' beat Curzon 'C' 6 – 4 thanks to a first treble of the season from Shawnik and a double from Olly with John picking up a single. For Curzon Paul won two and teamed up with Peter who won one to win the doubles too.

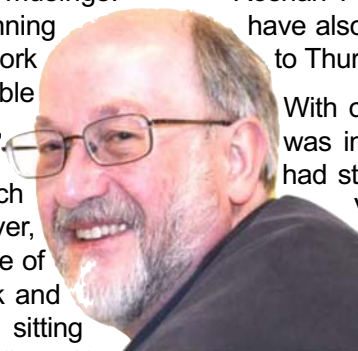




# DIVISION FOUR

by Martin Wetherell

Welcome to my Division 4 musings. Tilehurst Methodists were planning to enter a team this year, but work commitments proved to be insurmountable and the team had to be withdrawn, meaning that this Season there are only eleven teams in Division 4 and thus, each week, one team has no fixture. However, Sonning Common & Peppard 'G' are one of three teams to have played every week and with this advantage they are currently sitting pretty at the top of the Division. Closely followed by three other teams!



Roshan Patel. Apart from this personnel change, they have also switched their home matches, from Tuesday to Thursday.

With only eleven teams Kennet Valley's first match was in Week 2 when they met Kingfisher 'H', who had started the previous week with a bang. Kennet Valley ended up losing 2 - 8, with Lewis Oke winning both points since he defeated Azaan Ali 7-11 8-11 11-9 11-9 11-7 and Ania Pytka 12-10 11-9 14-12 with teammates Toby Barter and Russell Moores both unable to secure a win, although Russell's opening match against Roger Prew went to five games.

Reading FC 'B' appear to have found a star in **Freedom Agindotan** and, with the results he is posting, I assume he must have played in another League, in a past life. **Simon Berry** (Sonnig Common & Peppard 'G') is another "newcomer" who will frustrate a lot of opponents this Season, in that he has played in a higher Division in the past, but has subsequently changed his identity (that is to say his Table Tennis England ID !) to befuddle the statisticians. I suspect Simon will top the Divisional Averages come the end of the Season, although teammate **Melvyn Lovegrove** will also be striving for top spot. Another 'one to watch' is **Azaan Ali** (Kingfisher 'H') who has made a tremendous start to his Senior League career, while **Anthony Reeve** (Sonnig Common & Peppard 'E') and **Joe Bull** (Reading FC 'B') have also carried on from where they left off last season.

At the other end of the scale there are a few players, both newcomers and returnees, who have yet to win a set. However, the Season has just started and there should be plenty of matches in which they can make their mark.

There are a few Doubles pairings that are starting to show their pedigree and **Simon Berry & Melvyn Lovegrove** will be the ones to beat. Simon Berry and Azaan Ali currently top the Player of the Match (PoM) table, with 4 awards each, followed by Freedom Agindotan with 3 awards.

**Kennet Valley Free Church 'B'** are pretty much unchanged, having retained Toby Barter, Steve Christelow, Jamie Li-Telford, Russell Moores and Lewis Oke from last year, with Russell re-registering late on in the day. However, to supplement last year's squad they have also added another promising young player,

It was all change the following week when their other three players turned out for their home match against Springfield 'D', Steve Christelow carrying on from last season with a straight sets treble, newcomer Roshan Patel also recording a maximum on his debut, while Jamie Li-Telford chipped in with two wins, to record a 9 - 1 win. For the away trip to Reading FC 'B', Jamie stepped down and his place was taken by Lewis. However, Reading FC were too strong and the team eventually lost 3 - 7, with everyone getting the better of Harry Edwards, Steve losing the final set, to Freedom Agindotan, 11-13 5-11 11-9 9-11. The following week Toby, Jamie and Russell lost 2 - 8 to Sonning Common & Peppard 'G' who, like previous opponents

Reading FC, have hit the ground running. Russell lost all three, while Toby and Jamie each won once. In their final match of this first 'Quarter', Kennet Valley travelled to Tidmarsh 'E' and aided by Tidmarsh's injury woes, which meant Tidmarsh could only field two players, they won 7 - 3, Russell finding his

mojo and winning both his sets, as did Roshan, while Toby narrowly lost to both Roger Stevens and John Harland, losing 9-11 9-11 12-14 to Roger and 9-11 13-11 9-11 7-11 to John.

Kennet Valley are an equal opportunity team, with everyone playing approximately the same number of matches. However, with six players in the squad this does mean that no-one usually gets a long run in the team. This egalitarianism has also spread to the Doubles, with a different pairing selected for each of the five matches played, with Roshan Patel & Steve Christelow achieving their one win, 3 - 0 against Springfield 'D'.

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1 SC&P G	6	4	1	1	42	18	42
2 SC&P E	5	4	1	0	40	10	40
3 Reading FC	5	5	0	0	38	12	38
4 Kingfisher H	5	5	0	0	34	16	34
5 Springfield D	6	1	1	4	24	36	24
6 Kennet Valley B	5	2	0	3	23	27	23
7 OLOP F	5	2	0	3	22	28	22
8 SC&P F	5	2	0	3	22	28	22
9 Sonning Sports C	6	1	1	4	19	41	19
10 Milestone C	5	1	0	4	14	36	14
11 Tidmarsh E	5	0	0	5	12	38	12

Kennet Valley 'B' have temporarily lost the services of their star player from last year, after Steve Christelow came off worst (and his bicycle) following a run-in with a motor vehicle. At this juncture, I do not believe the vehicle was being driven by any opponents ! Although his bike was written off, Steve hopes his broken bones will have healed sufficiently that he is back playing soon. However, his absence will mean that Kennet Valley will lose some points and, consequently, will probably finish in 6th or 7th place.

**Kingfisher 'H'** have a large squad, combining experience and youth, managing to retain the services of Gill Bennett, Miguel Caballero and Roger Prew but adding experience with Ania Pytka along with newcomers Azaan Ali, Sameer Rafiq and late signing Haris Munir. So far, Captain Gill Bennett has not selected herself to play but, with five matches gone, Kingfisher have a perfect winning record.

Kingfisher started with a trip to Sonning Sports 'C', where they won 7 - 3, Miguel Caballero scoring a treble but Azaan Ali snatching the PoM award, on his Senior debut, after he also recorded a maximum. Another youngster, Sameer Rafiq, was also selected but it was subsequently confirmed that he was ineligible to play, which meant that his efforts were for naught. The following week, Kennet Valley 'B' were the visitors and Kingfisher recorded their best win this "Quarter", romping home 8 - 2, Roger Prew scoring a treble having seen off Lewis Oke 12-10 14-12 3-11 11-8, while Ania Pytka and Azaan both recorded two wins.

Azaan was back to treble-winning form in each of his next three matches, also earning himself three more PoMs. First up was an away win against Sonning Common & Peppard 'F', the 7 - 3 victory assured by Roger Prew winning twice and also partnering Azaan to a Doubles win, over Derek Wavell and Mike Casserley, the final score being 14-12 14-12 11-9, with Ania also winning her final set of the evening. A closer match, against Milestone 'C', resulted in a 6 - 4 victory, Ania picking up two wins while Haris Munir won one set, on his League debut, gaining confidence as the evening progressed, demonstrating some encouraging match-play.

The final match, to date, was an away trip to play Our Lady of Peace 'F'. This resulted in another 6 - 4 victory, although 39 games were played in a competitive match-up. Roger Prew was on hand with another double while Haris, despite failing to conjure a singles win, partnered Azaan to a crucial Doubles win.

However, despite this perfect record, Kingfisher are sitting in 4th place, albeit having played one less match than leaders Sonning Common & Peppard 'G', demonstrating how close the title race will be this season. However, I believe they will need Azaan to keep on top of his school-work and Miguel to feature a bit more to keep their title hopes alive. On the Doubles front, Azaan has participated in every combination played, with four wins from five,

the copybook for Ania & Azaan slightly blotted when they lost the Doubles to Milestone's Carl Edlind & John Evans 9-11 6-11 13-11 5-11.

**Milestone 'C'** have also retained most of their core personnel from last year, although they have lost Oliver Bonser to Division 3, adding newcomer Ben Rumble to their roster of Carl Edlind, John Evans, Tony Hayden and Colin Phillips. However, after five matches, Ben has still to make his first appearance. Milestone opened their campaign with a thumping home defeat to Sonning Common & Peppard 'E', losing 1 - 9, John Evans defeating Ian Davenport 14-16 11-9 11-9 7-11 11-6, in his final set, to avoid the whitewash, Carl Edlind and Colin Phillips having nothing to show for their efforts, although Carl & John were close to winning the Doubles, just losing out 11-9 11-7 11-13 7-11 11-13 to Jim Warren & Ian, while Carl lost a 5 game final set 13-11 6-11 11-8 16-18 3-11 to Jim Warren.

The following week Milestone travelled to Our Lady of Peace 'F', where John won twice and also partnered Carl to a Doubles win. However, despite a battling display, Carl had no more success this week, again losing all three, while Colin made way for Tony Hayden, who had no joy on his return to fitness, his best chance probably the 12-14 9-11 7-11 loss to Qing Wu, the end result being a 3 - 7 defeat. After a week off, Milestone travelled to Kingfisher 'H' where they just lost 4 - 6, John losing the first set to deny him a treble and Carl getting off the mark by winning the opening set, both players again combining to win the Doubles, while the returning Colin Phillips was unable to secure his first win.

However, their next match was at home to Springfield 'D' which, despite losing the Doubles, was won 6 - 4, John Evans and Carl Edlind both recorded maximums, in the most tightly contested match so far, with 44 games being played, Tony Hayden having nothing to show for his efforts over 18 games. Sadly, Milestone were unable to capitalise on this result and, in their next match, suffered a 10 - 0 defeat away at Reading FC 'B', Carl, John and Tony having no answers, with only Carl winning any games, losing the final set of the evening to Joe Bull 11-6 1-11 11-7 3-11 5-11.

On the Doubles front, Carl Edlind and John Evans have been their first choice pairing, playing together four times and recording two wins, Carl partnering Tony Hayden in their fourth match, against Springfield 'D', which they lost 1 - 3.

**OLOP 'F'** captain Jan Polnik has successfully retained Alona Slobodskoy from last year's winning team but the undefeated Ralph Philips is now playing for the 'A' team, while Andrew Adair is playing for Kingfisher 'G'. So, to bolster the 'F' team, Jan has added three newcomers, Anand Rengasamy, Qing Wu and Youth League alumnus Rudresh Desai. Their opening fixture was against Sonning Common & Peppard 'F' when Rudresh Desai and Qing Wu made their debuts, accompanied by Alona



Slobodskoy. However, despite Rudresh winning the opening set, the match was lost 7 - 3. I am unsure how often it happens, but there are probably no mystical pronouncements in the fact that Rudresh (playing #1) won his first set, Qing (playing #2) won his second set and

6. All these players look to be awkward to play against, with the average game count a respectable 38. Jan looks to have built a squad that will probably finish in 5th or 6th, with results improving as the newcomers find their feet.



OLOP 'F' - JAN POLNIK, CHRIS BUNN AND ANDREW ADAIR

Alona (playing #3) won her third set.

Milestone 'C' were the visitors in Week 2 and OLOP 'F' fielded the same team, although Jan Polnik partnered Alona in the Doubles. This week's outcome was much better, with Alona winning all three while Qing and Rudresh both won twice, resulting in a 7 - 3 victory. Another reversal the following week, with a 1 - 9 defeat at Sonning Common & Peppard 'E', although, on another day, the scoreline could have been much closer. Jan returned, in place of Rudresh, but lost all three, as did Alona, Qing winning his final set, beating Anthony Reeve 11-6 13-11 10-12 8-11 11-7, to avoid the whitewash, having earlier come close to defeating Jim Warren, before eventually losing 14-12 14-16 8-11 3-11.

OLOP 'F' then had a week off before facing Kingfisher 'H', losing by the narrowest of margins 4 - 6, with Qing winning twice while Anand Rengasamy, in his first match, won the opening set, Rudresh also securing a further singles win. However the draw was almost within their grasp since Anand pushed Roger Prew all the way, in the final set, before losing 11-7 10-12 13-11 7-11 8-11. OLOP then finished off this 'Quarter' with an away win at Springfield 'D', Qing Wu recording his first maximum while Alona Slobodskoy and Jan Polnik both recorded two wins apiece, Jan's wins including an 11-9 11-9 12-14 4-11 11-9 victory over Paul Martin.

On the Doubles front, none of the four pairings have had any joy, although the losses are improving in each match, Jan & Rudresh losing in Week 1 0 - 3, Jan & Alona then losing 1 - 3, as did Jan & Qing, with Anand & Qing losing 2 - 3 in Week 5, as did Jan & Qing in Week

**Reading FC 'B'** have also retained the bulk of their squad from last year, with Derek Anderson, Joe Bull, Harry Edwards and Tony Edwards being joined by newcomer Freedom Agindotan, who has taken the spot vacated by Keith Greene, although Tony is another player who has yet to turn out for his side. The season started with a 6 - 4 away win against Sonning Common & Peppard 'G', the debutant Freedom Agindotan, Derek Anderson and Harry Edwards each winning twice, with none of them able to beat Melvyn Lovegrove.

Reading FC had an unexpected week off, when their opponents were unable to field a team but the time off obviously paid dividends as they travelled to Sonning Sports 'C' in Week 3, winning 9 - 1, Freedom recording his first maximum and PoM, Joe Bull also recording a treble, with Harry losing out on his treble when Michael Byrne won the final set 13-11 12-10 12-10. The following week they held their first home match, with visitors Kennet Valley 'B' losing 7 - 3, Freedom reprising his success of the previous week with a maximum and PoM, Joe's replacement Derek Anderson also recording a treble, while Harry weirdly failed to win a single game.

One week later Reading FC were out and about, this time visiting Sonning Common & Peppard 'F', eventually winning 6 - 4. Derek and Joe again swapped places with Joe subsequently recording a maximum, defeating Mike Casserley in the decider 10-12 11-5 12-10 6-11 12-10, while Harry won his opening set against Steve Knott. Freedom secured his win by defeating Steve, just losing out to Derek Wavell 10-12 9-11 12-14 and Mike Casserley 9-11 11-5 11-9 9-11 3-11, which meant that Freedom & Joe's Doubles win proved to be crucial. Ending this 'Quarter' on a high, Reading FC took all ten points in their defeat of Milestone 'C', Freedom Agindotan back to form with a treble while Derek Anderson and Joe Bull both recorded consecutive maximums, Derek clinching his treble when he beat John Evans 11-9 12-10 11-8. The Doubles was also a close run affair, Joe & Freedom defeating Carl Edlind & John Evans 8-11 12-10 11-9 11-9.

On the Doubles front, only two pairings have been entered with Freedom Agindotan & Derek Anderson losing 3 - 0 on their first outing together, against Sonning Common & Peppard 'G', but winning 3 - 0 on their next match together, against Kennet Valley Free Church 'B', while Joe Bull & Freedom have three wins from three and currently lie second in the Divisional Averages. Reading FC 'B' are another undefeated team, with five wins from

five and are currently in 3rd place. If Freedom, Derek, Joe and Harry can maintain their current form and remain injury free then I believe they will finish either top or runners-up.

**Sonning Common & Peppard** have three teams registered in Division 4 this year, so there should be a bit of intra-club rivalry over which team is top dog. Obviously a bit of in-house competition has already taken place, since last season's 'E' team now appears to be the 'G' team, having retained just two members of last year's team. All of which means that this year's **'E' team** comprises Simon Blake, Ian Davenport, David Pearson, Anthony Reeve, Arran Reeve and Jim Warren, which is almost all of last year's 'G' team, the exception being Marko Madzar who, this year, will again be turning out for the 'G' team. So far neither Simon Blake nor Arran Reeve has played, both players averaging one win per match, last season.

Sonning Common & Peppard 'E' are another undefeated team, although they have drawn one match, against their 'G' team. However, thanks to the number of high scoring wins they are currently in 2nd place, two points behind the 'G' team who have played one more match. I believe that the 'E' team are strong contenders for the Title this year, along with Reading FC 'B' and SC&P 'G'. They started with a 9 - 1 win at Milestone 'C' with Anthony Reeve and Jim Warren both recording maximums, while Ian Davenport lost out on his own treble when he was beaten 16-14 9-11 9-11 11-7 6-11 by John Evans, in his final set.

The following week they played their clubmates from the 'G' team, the end result being a 5 - 5 draw although Ian recorded a magnificent treble and, to date, is the only player to have beaten both Simon Berry and Melvyn Lovegrove. The remaining points were courtesy of David Pearson and Jim, who each beat Mark Berry. In Week 3 they again won 9 - 1, this time beating Our Lady of Peace 'F', Anthony Reeve losing his final set to Qing Wu thus missing out on his treble, with Ian and Jim both recording maximums. The following week they travelled to Tidmarsh 'E', winning 8 - 2, with trebles from both Anthony and Jim, while David Pearson recorded a further win by beating John Harland.

Two weeks later the same personnel visited Sonning Sports 'C' where they recorded their third 9 - 1 win of the 'Quarter', Anthony and Jim again recording maximums, this being Jim's fourth treble having only dropped points against their 'G' team, while David lost out on his own treble after losing his opening set against Jude O'Halloran. On the Doubles front, the 'E' team have only played two combinations, both pairings winning twice. Ian Davenport & Jim Warren played in the first three matches, only losing against their 'G' team, Jim pairing up with Anthony Reeve, in Ian's absence, for the final two matches.

**The SC&P 'F' team** have retained their letter and are again captained by Mike Casserley. This year he is joined by Gerry Bacon, Julian James, Steve Knott, Derek

## DIV 4 LEADING AVERAGES

Player	Team	P	W	%
Joe Bull	Reading FC B	9	9	100.00%
Melvyn Lovegrove	SC&P G	18	17	94.44%
Azaan Ali	Kingfisher H	15	14	93.33%
Simon Berry	SC&P G	15	14	93.33%
Anthony Reeve	SC&P E	12	11	91.67%
Ian Davenport	SC&P E	9	8	88.89%
Derek Anderson	Reading FC B	9	8	88.89%
Jim Warren	SC&P E	15	13	86.67%
Freedom Agindotan	Reading FC B	15	12	80.00%
Roger Prew	Kingfisher H	9	7	77.78%
Derek Wavell	SC&P F	15	10	66.67%
Qing Wu	OLOP F	15	9	60.00%

Maltby, Derek Wavell (who has been transferred from last year's 'E' team) and newcomer Alistair Scott, who replaces Colin Gentle in the roster. After their opening five matches, neither the injured Gerry Bacon nor Derek Maltby have yet made an appearance. Sonning Common & Peppard 'F' started their campaign with a 7 - 3 home win against Our Lady of Peace 'F', each player winning twice, with none of the six participants leaving undefeated. Mike Casserley lost his opening set against Rudresh Desai, Derek Wavell missed out on his treble when he was beaten by Alona Slobodskoy in his final set, while Julian James lost his second set to Qing Wu.

Two weeks later they entertained visitors Kingfisher 'H', who left as 7 - 3 victors, with Derek winning two sets and Mike winning his match-up with Ania Pytka, while Alistair Scott had no joy on his debut, losing all three. The following week they travelled to Springfield 'D', this time triumphing 7 - 3, with Derek winning all three, Julian again winning twice, just losing out on a maximum when he lost to Chris Taylor 15-17 1-11 11-7 10-12, while Alistair recorded his first win by defeating fellow newbie Emily Goodall. Reading FC 'B' came calling in Week 5, leaving with a narrow 6 - 4 victory, Derek and Mike both winning twice but Steve Knott unable to secure a win on his first outing this Season.

The 'F' team's final match was against their 'G' team, who defeated them 9 - 1, Alistair Scott and Mike Casserley ending the evening pointless with Derek Wavell winning his final set, against Marko Madzar, to avoid the whitewash. On the Doubles front, the 'F' team have also only played two combinations with Derek Wavell & Julian James winning the one time they played together, Derek partnering up with Mike Casserley in their other four matches, winning the first time out but subsequently losing the next three times.

Melvyn Lovegrove, who played in last year's SC&P 'E' team, has now taken on the mantle of Team Captain, for a new group of players in the 'G' team. Melvyn has added the experienced Simon Berry, along with his son Mark Berry who is making his League debut, signed Marko Madzar from last year's 'G' team, Andy Stone from



Tilehurst Methodists and another newcomer Freddie Sayer, although Freddie has yet to make his debut. In their first match, despite Melvyn Lovegrove recording a treble, Sonning Common & Peppard 'G' lost 4 - 6 to Reading FC 'B', Mark Berry on his debut and Andy Stone on his Commoners' debut, both unable to secure a win, their fourth point courtesy of Simon Berry & Melvyn winning the Doubles, although Andy pushed Harry Edwards to 5 games, before losing 11-6 14-16 12-10 8-11 8-11.

The following week they played their first intra-club match, against their 'E' team, which resulted in a 5 - 5 draw, Mark again unable to secure a win although he came so very close in his opening set, eventually losing to David Pearson 11-8 12-10 9-11 9-11 2-11, while Simon Berry and Melvyn Lovegrove both won twice and also partnered up to win the Doubles. In Week 3 the 'G' team travelled to Tidmarsh 'E', where they won 8 - 2, Simon recording his first treble and PoM, Melvyn recording his second maximum, while Mark got off the mark with his first win, defeating Roger Stevens 11-6 11-5 11-9. Same team, different opponents but exactly the same outcome when Sonning Sports 'C' were the visitors the following week, with Mark defeating Michael Byrne to record his point while Simon and Melvyn both recorded further maximums. The following week the 'G' team travelled to Kennet Valley 'B' where they achieved exactly the same results, an 8 - 2 victory with Mark taking the scalp of Russell Moores while Simon and Melvyn both scored trebles.

Their final match of this 'Quarter' was another intra-club match, this time against their 'F' team, which resulted in their best win yet, a 9 - 1 victory, with Simon and Melvyn continuing their imperious form, with four maximums on the trot, with Marko Madzar picking up two wins on his first appearance losing his opportunity to make it a clean sweep when he lost to Derek Wavell 9-11 9-11 7-11. On the Doubles front, the 'G' team have been extremely frugal with Simon Berry and Melvyn Lovegrove playing together in all six matches and more importantly winning every set, which means they currently top the Divisional Averages.

**Sonning Sports 'C'** have the biggest squad in the Division, with 8 players registered, so Captain Michael Byrne may have a fun time scheduling their fixtures! Joining Michael are Mo Cole, Stephen Edwards, Mike Gautrey, Jude O'Halloran, Phil Peat, John Scott and newcomer Stephen Reader. Mike has dropped down from the 'B' team but has yet to play a match. Sonning Sports started their campaign with a 3 - 7 defeat, at home to Kingfisher 'H', with Mo Cole, Stephen Edwards and Jude O'Halloran all winning one set each. The following week they travelled to Springfield 'D' where they achieved a 5 - 5 draw, thanks to a treble from Jude and singles from both Stephen Reader and John Scott.

In Week 3, they suffered a heavy defeat at the hands



ANDY STONE, OF SC&P 'G'

of title chasing Reading FC 'B', losing 1 - 9, with Michael Byrne securing their sole win in the very last set, having seen Stephen Edwards and John finish the evening with no points. The following week they travelled to Sonning Common & Peppard 'G', another title chasing side, where they lost 8 - 2. This was an unusual affair, with 9 of the 10 sets ending 3 - 0, two of these being won by Stephen Edwards and Jude O'Halloran, this time Michael being unable to replicate his feat from last week, eventually losing his final set 12-14 11-8 7-11 11-9 10-12 to Mark Berry. This match also contained the highest scoring game so far, with Michael losing the opening set, to Melvyn Lovegrove 7-11 18-20 3-11.

In Week 5 Sonning Sports recorded their first win, defeating Tidmarsh 'E' 7 - 3, in a very competitive match which required 41 games to decide the points. Phil Peat made his first appearance this Season, winning twice, Stephen Reader recorded a further win, while John Scott recorded his first maximum this Season, which included a 6-11 11-7 7-11 12-10 18-16 victory over Steve Andrews. The following week it was back to earth with a bump, losing 1 - 9 to Sonning Common & Peppard 'E', who are yet another title chasing team. This time it was Jude O'Halloran saving the team's blushes with Michael Byrne and Phil Peat unable to make any inroads on the opposition. However, the final result could have been closer since Jude only lost to Jim Warren 8-11 11-6 12-10 8-11 9-11 while, in the Doubles, Michael & Jude lost 4-11 14-12 9-11 9-11 to Anthony Reeve & Jim.

Sonning Sports 'C' are currently in 9th place in the table, having played one more match than their nearest rivals. However, the good news is that they have played the four best teams, albeit losing each time, and they now have some respite until the New Year although, with eight players in their roster, they may find it harder to build on

any success from the previous week. On the Doubles front, five different pairings have been tried across these six matches, which is to be expected with such a large squad. Unfortunately, the only winning combination, thus far, has been John Scott & Stephen Reader, Jude O'Halloran having no joy when partnering with Michael Byrne, Stephen Edwards or Stephen Reader, while John Scott and Stephen Edwards lost 3 - 0 in their only outing together.

**Springfield** are another Club who have entered one less team this year, which means that this year's 'D' team is captained by last year's 'E' team Captain, Colin Jones. Colin is joined by Paul Martin, another 'E' team compatriot, Tom Berryman from last year's 'D' team, Chris Taylor from last year's 'C' team and Emily Goodall, for her first foray into the hurly burly of League table tennis. Springfield 'D' started off their campaign with an 8 - 2 victory over Tidmarsh 'E' who, due to player injuries, had to forfeit three sets. However, Paul Martin was in inspired form, winning both his other sets, with Tom Berryman and Colin Jones both defeating Mike Bundy.

The following week the same team drew 5 - 5 against Sonning Sports 'C' and although Tom missed out on a win, having come close against John Scott (12-10 10-12 6-11 7-11) and Stephen Reader (9-11 14-12 6-11 5-11), Colin and Paul both won twice, Colin getting the better of Stephen Reader winning 12-10 6-11 13-11 15-13, and they also partnered up to win the Doubles. The same team was in action in Week 3, but was unfortunate to meet an in-form Kennet Valley 'B', who won 9 - 1, with Colin's solitary win the one consolation, Tom and Paul leaving empty-handed.

New signing Emily Goodall and old hand Chris Taylor were both selected to play against Sonning Common & Peppard 'F' along with Colin, but with Chris only able to record two wins, after losing the opening set to Derek Wavell, and Colin only able to win one set, they lost 3 - 7. Tom Berryman returned to the team, for the away trip to Milestone 'C', in place of Emily, but to no avail as they lost 4 - 6, Tom, Colin and Chris each securing one win, while Chris & Tom also won the Doubles. Their final match of this 'Quarter' was at home, to Our Lady of Peace 'F', Springfield being represented by Emily, Chris and Paul Martin. It started well, with Chris & Paul both winning their opening games, but went downhill from there, although Paul narrowly lost his second set, against Jan Polnik, 9-11 9-11 14-12 11-4 9-11, with victory in the Doubles the only other success, resulting in an overall 3 - 7 defeat.

After a successful start, winning and then drawing their first two matches, Springfield 'D' are currently sitting pretty in 5th spot, although they have played one more match than those around them, and I therefore believe that they will finish in 7th or 8th place. On the Doubles front Springfield 'D' has fielded a different pairing in each of their six matches, with Paul Martin successfully partnering each of Chris Taylor, Colin Jones and Tom Berryman

to a win, the other win courtesy of Chris & Tom.

**Tidmarsh 'E'** are the remaining team in the Division and are the only team to retain the same squad as last year, with Steve Andrews, Mike Bundy, Peter Sinclair and Roger Stevens again joining Captain John Harland. With injuries to key players, Tidmarsh have been struggling to field a full team and consequently find themselves at the bottom of the table, with no wins in their first five matches. I am sure that results will improve once Peter recovers from his injury, assuming everyone else remains fit, but it will undoubtedly be a tough season, since there are a number of strong sides competing this time around.

Due to injuries, Tidmarsh 'E' could only field two players for their match against Springfield 'D' and with Mike Bundy losing all his sets 1 - 3, John Harland secured his team's two points, in the 8 - 2 defeat, by beating Tom Berryman and Colin Jones. However, this doesn't indicate the closeness of Mike's sets against Tom, which he lost 10-12 11-7 8-11 12-14, and Colin, which he lost 8-11 11-9 10-12 8-11. As they were down to one available player the following week, their match against Reading FC 'B' was postponed, but things improved in Week 3 when Roger Stevens returned to the pool of fit players, to face Sonning Common & Peppard 'G'. Although Roger was unable to secure a win, Mike and John each won one set, thus earning the team two points in this 2 - 8 defeat. However, the score might have been closer since Roger lost to Melvyn Lovegrove 12-14 12-10 4-11 11-5 9-11, while Mike lost to Melvyn 13-11 9-11 8-11 11-13.

A further 2 - 8 home defeat occurred the following week, this time at the hands of Sonning Common & Peppard 'E'. Steve Andrews made his first appearance and won his opening set, with Roger also recording a win, although John was unable to win a game. Week 5 saw the same formation on the road to Sonning Sports 'C', this time Steve, Roger and John each winning once in a 7 - 3 defeat, Roger's win a hard-fought affair against Stephen Reader, Roger finally winning 9-11 12-10 10-12 11-7 11-3. However, for their final match in this 'Quarter', availability problems were again to the fore and Tidmarsh could only field two players, with John and Roger each winning once but also combining to win the Doubles in this 3 - 7 loss to Kennet Valley 'B'.

On the Doubles front, John Harland has played in all five matches, partnering both Mike Bundy and Steve Andrews twice, with no success, but partnering Roger Stevens to victory in his most recent outing. Hopefully results will improve, once Pete Sinclair is pronounced fit to play, but he has not been Tidmarsh's only injured player, so fingers crossed. Currently, John Harland has played in every match and Roger Stevens has been ever present in their last four outings. Tidmarsh are currently bottom of the table and it looks likely that they will be battling with Milestone 'C' to avoid the wooden spoon.





# YOUTH DIVISION

by Emma Barraclough

The new season began on September 13th 2019 with fewer players registering an interest than in the previous few seasons.

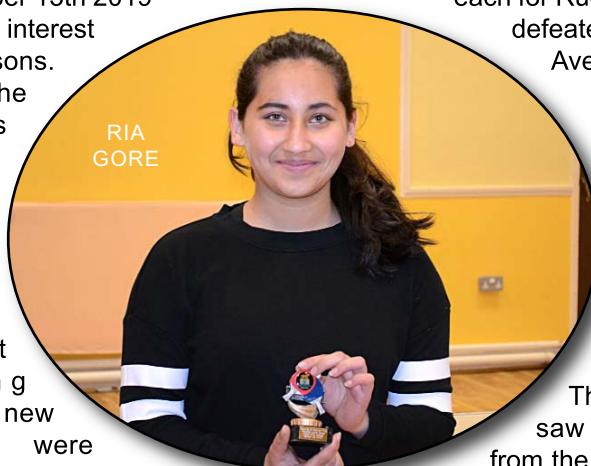
When registration was complete the Division had nineteen players and thus six teams including a new team name – the Blade team.



EMMA RANSON

The evening of the thirteenth September was a Meet and Greet evening where new players were introduced and teams clarified amid some good practice play. Since then the League has seen a good standard of committed play. As usual the teams will play as one division until Christmas and then split into two divisions.

September 20th saw the beginning of the League matches. The Lions (Rudresh Desai, Mo Cook and Harry Bullock) began the season with a comprehensive win 10 - 0 against the Jaguars while the Spartans and Blade drew with three wins for Om Gore of the Blade team.



RIA GORE



The Attackers defeated the Avengers 7 - 3 with three wins each for Adrian Mitchell and Prakhar Gandhi. The 27th September saw another win for the Lions against the Attackers 8 - 2 with three wins

each for Rudresh Desai and Mo Cook. Blade defeated the Jaguars 8 - 2 and the Avengers beat the Spartans 6 - 4.

October 4th saw strong wins for both the Lions and the Attackers. The Attackers defeated the Spartans 10 - 0 and the Lions won 9 - 1 against Blade. The Avengers won 7 - 3 against the Jaguars despite Emma Ranson recording three wins for the Jaguars. The following week, October 11th, saw another strong performance from the Lions with a 10 - 0 performance against the Spartans. Arran Reeve won three times helping the Avengers win 6 - 4 against Blade and the Attackers won 9 - 1 against the Jaguars with three wins for Prakhar Gandhi and Adrian Mitchell.

The final week of play before half term, October 11th, saw wins for the Lions, the Spartans and Attackers. The Lions won 9 - 1 against the Avengers; the Spartans won 8 - 2 against the Jaguars with three wins for San Celik and the Attackers won 9 - 1 against the Blade. The Lions lead the table at half term with 46 points with the Attackers in a strong second with 37 points. League play resumes on November 8th with the Grouping tournament planned for just before Christmas. Thanks as always to Wendy Porter for all her efforts.



ERIN BONSALL



MO COOK AND HARRY BULLOCK

## TEAM PLACINGS

	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1	Lions	5	5	0	0	46	4	46
2	Attackers	5	4	0	1	37	13	37
3	Avengers	5	3	0	2	23	27	23
4	Blade	5	1	1	3	19	31	19
5	Spartans	5	1	1	3	17	33	17
6	Jaguars	5	0	0	5	8	42	8

## LEADING AVERAGES

Player	Team	P	W	%
Mo Cook	Lions	14	14	100.00%
Adrian Mitchell	Attackers	12	12	100.00%
Rudresh Desai	Lions	11	11	100.00%
Prakhar Gandhi	Attackers	15	13	86.67%
Harry Bullock	Lions	14	12	85.71%
Om Gore	Blade	15	10	66.67%
James Atherton	Attackers	12	7	58.33%
Emma Ranson	Jaguars	15	8	53.33%
Arran Reeve	Avengers	14	7	50.00
Aarush Sawant	Spartans	12	5	41.67%