**League Report**

**Courier 17th November 2017**

**Two big victories have seen St Georges B zoom to top spot in Division 1. Firstly, St Georges A were whitewashed by Mark Jackson, Ryan Stockham and Ron Vose and then Jackson and Vose were joined by Laurence Sweeney to pocket all 9 singles against Whitnash A. The villagers’ point came from the doubles partnership of Kevin Ariss and Mark Woolerton. Colebridge Aces are 4th but look dangerous with games in hand and polished off Free Church C 10-0 courtesy of Ian Ferguson, Kate Hughes and Ben Willson. However, their rush to the top was stymied by second placed Free Church A who pipped them 6-4. Lee Dorning (3), Tom Brocklehurst (1) and Sam Weaving (1) took Church to 5 and Dorning and Weaving grabbed the doubles. Hughes and Willson posted braces for the Brummies. Free Church C bounced back with a convincing 9-1 success over St Georges A. Ricardo Bolanos, Dave Ramsey and Nikit Sajiv won all the singles with Bolanos coming from 0-2 down and then 1-7 down in the 5th to claw his way to victory over Gary Jackson. Damon Fenton joined Jackson for the consolation doubles. Third placed Rugby A defeated Free Church B 7-3. Ryan Lines grabbed a treble, Danny Ricks won twice and Sam Cafearo won once, Lines and Ricks taking the doubles. Jack Green, Harry Purewal and Charlotte Spencer all won once in reply. Wellesbourne moved away from the bottom of the division with a welcome 10-0 thrashing of County Council A, who are now 11th of 12. Alan Cotton, Awais Muhammed and Gary Stewart all hit form.**

**Free Church D cemented their position at the summit of Division 2 when taking all 10 points from their F side. Tom Hunt, Milan Sajiv and James Robertson proved formidable. Nomads Aces are chasing them and only dropped one point when opposing Free Church E. Simon Nolan and Paul Rowan won their singles, Tony Thomas won twice, losing to Phil Blowey, and Rowan and Thomas snatched the doubles. Nomads Enigmas moved into 4th with a 6-4 win over Eathorpe A. Bobby Lee starred with a hat-trick and Malc Macfarlane (2) and James Glazzard (1) gave support. Bernard Reman (2), Chris Atkins (1) also paired for the doubles to keep it tight.**

**In Division 3 leaders Snitterfield A came unstuck at Rugby D who beat them 8-2. Callum Ball and Freddy Jones posted triples and the doubles and Dave Cox won one, losing to Stuart Ayres and Dave Milton. Rugby D had earlier disposed of Free Church G by the same score. Ball (3) and Jones (2) were joined by Stuart Mills (2) and Ball and Jones again took the doubles. Church’s two were gained by Milly Bradshaw and Tom Fletcher. Rugby sit third, one point adrift of Whitnash B who beat Free Church H 8-2. Richard Smith and Greg Swan won their threes and Dennis Woodhead tasted victory twice, losing to Josh Yarrow. Yarrow paired with Milly Green to win the doubles. Free Church I drew with Warwick University A for whom Arslan Awan was undefeated in singles and doubles with Michael Farmer who won once. Chris Jones and Dan Shaw grabbed braces for Church and Kate Singleton one.**

**Free Church K continue in pole position in Division 4 and defeated Rugby E 8-2. Keith Knott and Darren Laffey won all their singles and 12 year old Eleanor Fletcher notched a single as well as the doubles with Laffey. Ian Evans and Grace Newman stopped a landslide. Second placed Eathorpe D were done no favours when being held to a draw by their B side. Sophie Cooper and Paul Deavall won twos and Michael Rossington one for D. Charlie Wragg’s double for B was helped by a single from John Ablett who went down in 5 in his other two singles. Roger Palmer picked up a single and guided Wragg to the crucial doubles. Warwick University B chalked up their first win when overcoming County Council F 7-3. Adam Green and Sam Pattison won their points with Council responding with singles from Neil Davis, Richard Haigh and Steve Maggs. Eathorpe C edged Free Church l 6-4 with Luca Bloodworth in inspired form to take a maximum plus the doubles with James Stone who secured the other two points. Jerry Chung (2), Nicholas Ho (1) and Richard Pittaway (1) made the encounter close. County Council E enjoyed an 8-2 win over their F team. Jason Grey and William Hung were unbeaten in singles and doubles and Carl Morgan added one. Richard Haigh and Jeremy Sampson scored for F. However, Council E were overwhelmed by Free Church J who posted a 10-0 win. Catherine McAuley, Janice Rowan and Jill Weaving amassed the points.**

**Rugby F hold second position in Division A, one point behind the leaders but with a match in hand. Angel and Tie Chen fought off the challenge of Free Church O 5-0.**

**Leaders Ashorne A were taken to the wire by Free Church P in Division B, getting home 3-2. Roger Pye won his two and helped Steve Bolton to the doubles but two excellent single performances from Dominic Priest and Jake Simmons made for an interesting match. Ashorne B in second place, beat Eathorpe F 5-0, Jim Jack and Steve Kay the duo responsible.**

**Ashorne C lead Division C and dropped just one point to Free Church Q. Barry Bayliss won two and steered Tony Philpott to the doubles. Philpott won one single but was thwarted by Sarah Costa. Runners-up Free Church R also won 3-2 against David Hanson and Paul Holtby of Eathorpe G who both notched singles. Joe Shrimpton won his two for Church and saw Harvey Wilson to a doubles success. Eathorpe H closed on the two sides above them when accounting for Free Church S 5-0 through Joshua Cope and James Rome.**

**Eathorpe I’s 4-1 Division D win over County Council F moved them to top. Christian Roberts won two and helped Jamaal Iqbal (1) to the doubles. Eric Banthorpe got the consolation. Free Church T pounded Eathorpe J 5-0 with the points coming from Jack Knowles and Alex O’Driscoll. FISSC B beat County Council F 5-0 Martin Hamer and Mandip Takhar stacking up the points.**

**Leaders Rugby G have yet to drop a point in Division E. Alex Bowe and Josh Tyagi overcame Eathorpe K 5-0 and then beat Eathorpe L by the same scoreline. This time Tyler Humphries joined Bowe. Eathorpe K grabbed a narrow 3-2 success against Free Church V whose debutant, Alfie Ransom won two. Aaron Heel and Alexander Koptev rescued the result.**

**National Cadet League Day 1**

**After recent successes in the National Leagues in the past couple of years Lillington Free Church table-tennis club entered Day 1 of the National Cadet League at Wellingborough on Sunday with a view to the future. However, the three teams surprised their coaches with their achievements.**

**The A team finished second in Division 1, 5 points adrift of leaders XLNT Draycott of Long Eaton whom they nonetheless defeated 4-2. Their one blemish was a 2-4 defeat to Bedford A but a draw against Corby Smash ( 3-3) and wins over Milton Keynes (5-1) and St Neots A (4-2) propelled them to the runners-up spot. Josh Yarrow posted an impressive 90% average with his win over England number 85, Sam Cooper, the highspot, Eduardo Bolanos’s 70% included an outstanding win over Mark Balon who is ranked above him and reserve Tom Yarrow chipped in with two important victories as well as going down in 5 on numerous occasions.**

**Lillington B also took the runners-up spot and with it promotion in Division 2. They were level with the leaders, St Neots A, but had to concede the top position by virtue of their narrow 2-4 loss to them. They drew with Rugby 3-3 and defeated Draycott B 5-1, Bedford B 6-0 and WDHA Cadets (Wellingborough) 4-2 in which number one Nicholas Ho mustered two crucial wins. Ho finished on 50%, 12 year old Eleanor Fletcher ‘s 80% included an astonishing 3-1 win over England number 9 under 13 girl Anna Green and a win over number 44 girl Sasha Withers and debutant Joe Shrimpton returned 70%**

**Lillington C included three debutants but they easily clinched pole position in Division 3A by 11 points. Corby Smash B were dispatched 8-1, Westfield A of Wellingborough 9-0 and Bedford D 7-2. Owain Jones, George Barnes and Erin Darwen all enjoyed 8 wins from 9 singles.**

**Rugby’s team in Division 2 finished 5th and will play in Division 3 on Day 2. As well as drawing with Lillington they also gained draws against Bedford B and WDHA. Defeats against Draycott (1-5) and St Neots B (2-4) left them one point shy of safety. William Chen returned an 82% average, Alex Bowe 37%, Tyler Humphries 33% and Josh Tyagi 25%.**