

WARREN SPRING TABLE TENNIS CLUB CHRISTMAS NEWSLETTER



FEATURE HEADLINE - WOW! CHRISTMAS CHEER INDEED

The club is extremely proud to inform all its members that the following young Warren Spring players have achieved remarkable success over the past few months and have as a result joined our more established players on the England ranking list for their respective age groups. Our Chairman, Bill Price has noted this performance and sends his congratulations to all players for the high rankings gained.

Boy's U/10 – James Hamblett - England Ranked No 4; Danny Emery – England Ranked No 7

Girls U/11 – Sana Mohammed – England Ranked No 6

League Round-Up

Our D and E teams both riding high in the top half of the division one table took on each other and produced a thrilling contest. The D team headed by captain Rob Worrell, Paul Waterman and Erol Hasan faced E team captain Steve Kilford, David Kells and our new polish signing Maciej Demski. At the halfway stage the E team had a slender 3-2 lead after Maciej had beaten Erol but had gone down to Rob in a thrilling four setter, whilst David was unbeaten having come through against both Erol and Paul. The doubles was a belter with Rob and Paul just getting the better of David and Maciej 18-16, 12-10, 11-7. All to play for at 3-3 but alas, Paul's win against Steve in game seven was the D team's last taste of success as then David somewhat surprisingly accounted for Rob 11-8, 12-10, 11-9 with Maciej and Steve defeating both Paul and Erol respectively. So, a 6-4 victory for the E team which keeps them in contention for the top two places.

Just a day after the all Warren clash, our other division one side Warren C were playing host to Royston D. Without a doubt the "star" of the evening was Royston's Tony Comiskey who remained undefeated winning all his games in straight sets. Typically battling performances however from Warren's Grant Whitfield and Roy Jager against the vastly experienced Valerie Parkes, Grant coming through 9-11, 11-

9, 11-3, 10-12, 11-8 and Roy 9-11, 11-9, 11-8, 14-16, 12-10, and a solid evenings work by captain Mark Redford taking both Valerie and Royston's Sean Loffman without dropping a set guaranteed that the team stayed on track. Further wins by Grant and Roy over Loffman and a good doubles result by them over Comiskey and Loffman 13-11, 6-11, 11-3, 11-4 meant that we came through with a 7-3 win to keep our mid-table place going into the second half of the season.

North Herts Cup competition – Semi Finals

Warren Spring will have two teams in the McClaughlin Cup final for division one sides. Our C team played exceptionally well to beat a dangerous Royston C by a score of 5-4, whilst our E team defeated Settlement Ravens by 6-2 the remaining game being unplayed. A brief write-up from the evening:-

Warren C – Mark Redford (Captain), Grant Whitfield, Arthur Hawkins

Ravens C – Mike Malone (Captain), Derek Fuller, Alf Mills

Mark beat Mike Malone in 3 legs to put us 1-0. Mike played a good backspin game so Mark had to be patient & attack when appropriate - a good result as Mark lost to Mike in the league match. Mike gave up in the 3rd leg and wildly hit the ball in the last 4 points. Arthur lost in 4 legs to an on form Derek Fuller. Grant beat Alf Mills in 3 legs, After 2 close legs Alf collapsed in the 3rd losing to -4. Mark then beat Derek in 3 with Grant copying his teammate when beating Mike who seemed to be suffering from nerves or just how to play with his 3rd bat of the season. This put us 4-1 up.

Royston then staged a comeback as Alf beat Arthur in 3 closely fought legs with then Derek just easing past Grant in a thrilling 5 leg match winning 12-10 in the 5th; Derek really hit well on his forehand but Grant managed to return them in a match that could have gone either way. Mark saw us over the winning line in another 5 leg match beating Alf 11-7 in the deciding leg which was pleasing as Alf had beaten Mark the last couple of times they had played. The teams decided to play the final unimportant rubber which went to Mike over Arthur in 3 legs for a final 5-4 result. Mark would like to thank Nick Hart for showing him how to improve his forehand a week earlier, you never know it just could have made all the difference..

Many thanks to Mark for his write up of this match

Our E team got off to a flying start racing into a 5-1 winning lead against Settlement Ravens. E's captain, Steve Kilford started things rolling with a straight sets win over Cliff Pearce. Ravens fought back with their number one Dave Lewis just getting the better of Maciej Demski 9-11, 11-3, 11-7, 9-11, 9-11. We then went into overdrive with both David Kells and then Maciej winning comfortably against Adrian Cracknell and Cliff Pearce. Steve then accounted for Adrian after dropping the first set 8-11, 11-8, 11-6, 12-10. Ravens showed they were not finished as Dave Lewis once again threw down the gauntlet beating David in five sets before Maciej secured the win and a

place in the final by defeating Adrian in the fifth set. The teams decided to play a further game in which David came through against Cliff in four to make the final score 6-2. The final will take place in early February.

Table Tennis England – National Junior League

Our A team consolidated their position in division one of the NJL by losing out only to Barnet in the second weekend of competition. Their three other matches played were all closely fought wins which allowed them to hang on to fifth place overall.

The day started with the 7-2 loss to Barnet, but the team showed real resilience in a really tight encounter coming through 5-4 against Ellenborough B. After a short break we were in action again this time the opposition was Mossford 1 (Ilford) whom we defeated 6-3. In the last match of the day we took on Fusion 2 and this again resulted in a close 5-4 win. With seven matches played at the halfway stage Bruce Yao has a 56.3% average from 16 games, Charlie Shephard 53.8% from 13 and Joshua Ybanez 35.7% from 14. George Whitley did not play on the second day and Ilyssa Lacorte stood in for Sam Kester who was unavailable.

The B team who really struggled on day one of the competition faced day two without their No 1 Ilyssa Lacorte who had been drafted into the A team. However the squad really showed their metal and played extremely well throughout coming back from a 9-0 defeat to Mossford 2 to then beat both Ellenborough C and Chelmsford B by scores of 9-0 and 5-4 respectively. Star of the day was Oliver Dorn who lost only one and he was ably supported by Thomas and Matthew Ronayne and newcomer Freddie Reilly all of whom raised their game to secure wins which means the team have now moved two places off the bottom spot.

Table Tennis England – National Cadet League

The opening engagement of this season's Southern Zone NCL took place on the weekend of 14/15 November at the Cippenham Table Tennis Club, Slough, Berkshire.

Our A team on the back of their successful campaign last season where they finished as division two runners up, found themselves placed in division one so all knew that there would be tough matches ahead. The opening clash was against a powerful Crusaders team who in Samuel Pang and Robert Pelc had two strong England cadet players. Our team of Charlotte Marsden, Bruce Yao and George Whitley fought hard and took legs but could not prevent a 9-0 defeat. Next up were Chiltern A who won the title last year and once again we were struggling, but this time we did manage to take a couple of games as both Charlotte and Bruce got their names onto the winners sheet in a 7-2 loss. The last match of the day saw the team fight superbly taking on and beating Hillingdon A by a score of 6-3. The mainstay of the team here was Bruce who took a maximum ably supported by Charlotte (2) and George (1). The Hillingdon No 1, Reece Galloway took two for his side.

There was a look of shock and horror on the face of B team captain Ilyssa Lacorte when she discovered that her team had been promoted not one but two divisions higher than last season. "We only finished mid-table" she exclaimed. Perhaps it had something to do with the fact that Ilyssa has risen over fifty places in the England ranking list during the past year. The team however went about their business and faced Oxford A in their first match of the day. Although the result was an 8-1 win for our opponents, Ilyssa herself took the scalp of the highly rated Vicky Coll the Oxford No 1 and currently above Ilyssa in the England ranking list. Next up were Chiltern B and again unfortunately the match ended in a 6-3 defeat with Ilyssa winning two and Oliver Dorn winning one. The final match in this first series was against Reading B. Our team fought really hard and their commitment paid off as they came away with a 6-3 win. Ilyssa was on fire winning all three, with Oliver winning two and our newest recruit Samuel Dermont getting his name on the score sheet with a victory.

Our C team of James Hamblett, Danny Emery, Amar Parmar and Sana Mohammed were all new to the NCL but equipped themselves really well finishing the day on top of division four sweeping away firstly Reading C 7-2, then Chiltern D 6-3 and finally Chiltern E 7-2. The star of the weekend for the C team was undoubtedly James who finished with a 100% average taking nine from nine. Not far behind was Danny winning five from six 83.3%, with great support from Amar four from six 66.6% and Sana two from six for 33.3%.

BATTS Harlow Super Cadet Series

Playing for a total prize fund of some £250.00, going to the top four contestants, this competition brought together 40 of some of the best young players from the area.

Representing the Warren Spring club were Charlotte Marsden, Ilyssa Lacorte and Danny Emery who between them had a fine day's competition.

The playing format ensured plenty of matches for everyone. If you won you moved up the draw, if you lost you moved down. The tournament was mixed with both boys and girls playing together. By round 6 all were playing for a tournament rating of 1 down to 40. After a gruelling few hours play we had our top four placings all of whom were highly ranked England cadets.

1st Joe Walker (Essex)

2nd Jaycee Chan (Middlesex)

3rd Damien Grey (Surrey)

4th Gracie Edwards (Essex)

The finishing order for our young players of whom the club can be very proud was as follows:-

7th Charlotte Marsden

12th Ilyssa Lacorte

23rd Danny Emery

Club Tournament 2016

As usual, it has been a hard job coming up with a date just when to hold our annual event. With so much going on within the table tennis calendar these days it is impossible to pick a weekend where there is not something happening. After long and careful consideration the 2016 date has been set at SATURDAY/SUNDAY 12th/13th MARCH. This is a week earlier than originally anticipated, but on balance is the best weekend taking all things into consideration. Ink the date into your diaries now.

Entry forms and explanatory letter will be sent to all members in early January.

Closing date for entries will be Wednesday 24th February.