

# WARREN SPRING TABLE TENNIS CLUB NEWSLETTER

## *October Edition*

### **Divisional Round Up**

This season's campaign has begun in mixed fashion for our two elite teams playing in the premier division. Our A team has struggled somewhat mainly due to the absence of their captain and No 1 player Arron Beckett but I am sure that things will quickly improve once Arron begins playing regularly again. The B team have however started in fine fettle winning two and drawing one from their first four matches. Former Slovakian player Gabriela Tankel leads the way for her team with a 73% average so far.

Elsewhere, our F team of Rob Worrell, Piers Gibson-Birch, Ilyssa Lacorte and dad Dante are unbeaten in division one after five matches as are our G team of Bill Price, Bruce Yao and Charlie Shephard in division two. In division three things look good for our team of mainly young cadets who are also unbeaten with Danny Emery and James Hamblett both sitting on 100% records.

*Stop Press – Broadway C inflicted Warren F with their first defeat of the season as they triumphed 7-3 on Monday. Warren without captain and No 1 Rob Worrell were always struggling to stay in the match despite impressive wins by Ilyssa Lacorte over Vaughn Beck and Valerie Murdoch. Dante Lacorte secured our other win defeating Valerie.*

### **Around the tables**

A close encounter ensued when our C and D teams met each other recently in a division one match up, with six of the ten rubbers going to a fifth and final leg. Star man for the D team was Dilshan Wijesekera who bagged a maximum ably supported by Captain Steve Kilford and Alan Dorn. The C team's Mark Redford replied with two wins and Arthur Hawkins with one as they went down 3-7.

Newcomer Blagovesta Gerova added her name to the score sheet as she overcame David Joyce in the L team's 7-3 win over KLM C in division three. Nigel Gibson-Birch scored a maximum and then teamed up with Vesty for a winning doubles combination.

## **The Cup**

Five of our teams were drawn to play in the preliminary round of the various cup competitions that took place during the week beginning 10<sup>th</sup> October. Unfortunately, two matches had to be conceded these were in the McLaughlin (division one) where Broadway C had a walkover against our D team whilst in the Henderson (division three) Warren K conceded to Warren J. Of the matches that were played, Warren C beat Graveley Dragons in a tight division one contest 5-4 with Warren L overcoming KLM B 5-2 in a division three match up.

## **National Junior League**

The first weekend of the NJL kicked off on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> October. The club were fielding three teams comprising not only of juniors but also some cadets who themselves would be playing in their own competition (the National Cadet League) in a few weeks time. Our A team of Bruce Yao, Charlie Shephard and Danny Emery took on Mossford A from Ilford in their first match and came through by a score of 5-4, with Charlie gaining maximum wins. Next up Chelmsford A and the result another 5-4 win although this time against a team with only two players. Consequently, a win apiece from Charlie and Thomas Ronayne (standing in for Bruce) was enough to see us through. Our final game of the day was against Barnet A who again only had a team of two which was probably fortunate as we failed to win a game and so ended up as 6-3 losers.

I have little information on the B team as the score sheets are not to hand, but I can tell you that we were beaten 7-2 by BATTs II from Harlow. I further understand that Victor Ramirez Rioja was singled out for his fine consistent performance throughout the day.

Our C team meanwhile were taking on Ellenborough B, Chelmsford B and our own B team in their group. Losses of 4-5 to Ellenborough, 2-5 to Chelmsford and dare I say it a 0-9 whitewash to our B team mean that to date the team are struggling near the bottom of their division. However, a solid performance by Maddie Whitley (the only member of the team with any real experience of competition) and encouraging play from the less experienced players should bode well for the future especially as they will have Isabelle Lacorte (Ilyssa's younger sister) back in action for their next round of matches.

## **Girls Only Training Day**

We recently held another of our popular all girls coaching days with John Giles leading the training ably supported by England top thirty junior

Charlotte Marsden who acted as a feeder / demonstrator. Exercises featuring correct stroke play technique and body movement was the order of the day with some fun elements thrown in. All the girls involved had a great time and the plan is to arrange another in the not too distant future.



**It's nice to be involved**

**From left to right;**

**Clara Garavelli, Heidi Oestreicher,  
Isabelle Lacorte and Gabriela Kay**

### **Website Maintenance**

In response to my appeal in the last newsletter, may I on behalf of the club thank Paul Waterman who has agreed to attempt to update and maintain our website which remains a useful tool for us to advertise our wares.

### **Junior Sponsorship**

Again, more words of thanks are due to Marie Emery (Danny's mum) who managed to gain financial sponsorship from Roche Products and to our Chairman Bill Price who did the same securing funding from Wetherspoons (where else eh Bill). The club have not yet decided how the money will be spent, but it will go towards helping our juniors in their development.

### **Division One History**

In answer to my question in the last edition about who else had played division one at the tender age of twelve it was of course Charlie Baines. Not surprisingly, it was mum Anne who came up first with the correct answer.