



## **WARREN SPRING TABLE TENNIS CLUB NEWSLETTER**

### *Christmas 2017 Edition*

May I take this opportunity to wish all club members and their families a very happy Christmas and a healthy and prosperous New Year

#### **Subscription Reminder**

**Just a reminder to those who have yet to pay their club fee that you have until December 31<sup>st</sup> to do so without incurring the £20.00 / £10.00 penalty charge (please see September Newsletter). Not sure if you've paid? Check with me and I will tell you.**

#### **What's happening in the League**

With the season now at the halfway stage, Warren Spring teams are well placed to take control in all divisions come the resumption of hostilities in January.

In the premier division, our B team currently lie fourth but with games in hand. Marek Mastalerczyk the lead player on 76%. Our A team are fifth but in Arron Beckett have the club's leading premier performer on 83%.

In division one, the C team occupy second place largely due to the performance of two of our junior players namely Bruce Yao (90%) and James Hamblett (86%).

Division two sees our F team in first place and once again it is one of our juniors Victor Ramirez-Rioja leading the division's averages on 96% who has been "the star", ably supported by Stuart Marquis on 87%.

And to round things off nicely, our K team also top division three leading by a point but with two games in hand over their nearest rivals. This now begins to get boring but two of our youngsters Danny Emery and Arshbir Singh have yet to lose a game so far this season.

## National Cadet League

This seasons NCL opened on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> November with Warren teams playing at a new venue The Nightingale Academy in North London.

In division one, it did not take our A team long to get into top gear inflicting an 8-1 defeat over rivals Twickenham Brunswick 1. Three wins apiece from James Hamblett and invigorated Danny Emery plus two from Arshbir Singh saw us home. Our second match up and we were head to head with Urban TTC from West London a far better team containing two England ranked players in Thomas Palmer and Scarlett Anders. This fact did not trouble James who again produced a fine maximum being ably backed up by Danny and this time Victor Ramirez-Rioja who bagged one win and two wins respectively allowing us to come through 6-3. The final game of the day was against Fusion I who in Joshua Bruce had one of the best young players on show. This was borne out by the best game of the day when Joshua took on James who just edged home 8-11, 11-8, 5-11, 11-5,13-11. Fusion only fielded two players and with Victor going down 11-7, 7-11, 11-1, 11-9 to Joshua and Arshbir failing to produce a win this was indeed fortunate for us. Well done to James on remaining unbeaten taking eight from eight.



**A Team; Danny, James, Arshbir & Victor**

Meanwhile our B team in division three were going along smoothly winning 7-2 against Nightingale Academy I where a hat trick from Isabelle Lacorte plus two each from George Thorn and Meth Wijeyekoon saw us comfortably



through. Against Fusion 3 who again could only field two, we came through 6-3. Maximum wins from Fusion's Freddy Wilke (despite dropping a set to Isabelle) was not enough as Fusion's other player could make no impression.

**B Team; Isabelle, Meth & George. (Not shown Charlie McDevitt)**

As in division one, the most dangerous team was left to last and it was indeed Vagabonds 1 (Watford) who inflicted the teams' only defeat of the day by winning a really close tie 5-4. Two wins from Isabelle and one each from Meth and George- the latter being really unlucky after being two up in sets to finally lose to Ramy Premji 9-11, 5-11, 11-6, 12-10, 12-10 closed a really good performance from the team.

Our C team of Matt Roberts, Heidi Oestreicher, Indu Pawar and Francesca Preston were all making their debut in match competition and all performed admirably under the watchful guidance of mentor Ilyssa Lacorte. The first match against Nightingale Academy 3 and with Matt doing the gentlemanly thing and standing down it was left to the



**C Team; Matt, Indu, Heidi & Francesca**

three girls to register the teams' first win by a 6-3 score line. It was Heidi who led the way taking a maximum three wins with Indu taking two and Francesca one. It was evens in the next two matches as the team came away win with a 3-6 loss followed by an 8-1 win over Fusion 4 who was a player down. So, a great start by the team whose stats read Heidi – won 6 from 8, Indu won 3 from 6, Francesca won 2 from 5 and Matt winning 3 from 5.



**Post Match debrief C Team with mentor Ilyssa**



**Table Tennis is so much fun**

## **Grantham 4\* 18/19 November**

We originally had four young players taking part in this, one of the toughest on the tournament circuit but unfortunately James Hamblett had to pull out through illness.

Day one Saturday began with the boy's U/13 singles, and Victor Ramirez-Rioja was soon in his stride winning his group and seeing off Lewis Ellams (Yorkshire) the group favourite. In round 1 our young man gave a real fighting performance before going out to the dangerous Georgis Gerakios. Victor's next event was the Cadet Band 2 where again he won both his matches to finish top of his group. He was pushed all the way by Anupam Tripath (Lancs) in the 1<sup>st</sup> round but showed great maturity to take the match 13-11, 13-11, 11-8. Victor's best win of the day came next in the quarters where he defeated second seed Jake Hewitt (Yorkshire) before finally losing out in straight sets in the semis to Ethan Scully (Notts), the number one seed.

The girl's competition also opened with their U/13 singles where our Isabelle Lacorte scored two wins against higher ranked girls to top her group. In what was to become a really tough day for Isabelle she went out fighting in the first round to No 3 seed Anna Green (Notts) 12-10, 11-6, 14-12 the same young lady who beat her in the National Finals in June. Whilst this was happening, older sister Ilyssa was in action in the girls Cadet Band 1 where she beat both her group opponents. In the first round she defeated Scarlett Anders (Mx) before going down to the mentally strong Erin Green (Notts) in the quarters. Isabelle also competed in this event but did not make it out of her group despite taking the Welsh No 3 Lara Witton all the way. Both girls were in action in the Cadet Girls Singles with Ilyssa given a real tough ask in her group being up against Darcy Proud England No2, and Erin Green (again) England No8. Despite stubborn resistance all she could manage was third place. Like Ilyssa, Isabelle failed to qualify out of her group which included a 20-18 fifth set loss to Isobel McGerty (Suffolk).

SPARE A THOUGHT FOR ISABELLE, WHO PLAYED IN EIGHT MATCHES ON THE FIRST DAY, HAVING TO ENDURE 36 LEGS OF TABLE TENNIS. Safe to say she was a little tired at the end.

Sunday was of course another day and Isabelle fresh from a good night's sleep played brilliantly to finish runner up in the Junior Girls Band 2 beating the No 1 seed Rebecca Savage (Durham) along the way before losing out to her nemesis Anna Green in the final. In the junior event, Ilyssa again faced stern opposition in her group where eventually Tiana Dennison (England No 13) prevailed. In the junior



**Isabelle receiving her runner-up award for the Junior Band 2 event**

Band 1 event she finally lost out to Lois Perryman from Kent the England No 19.

### **Annual Club Tournament**

The 2018 Annual Club Tournament will take place over the weekend of Saturday / Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> March. It would be appreciated if you could enter this date into your diaries now. The tournament will be open to any club member and associate member playing local league table tennis, those juniors playing in the National Junior and National Cadet leagues and any player from a different club who have given up their time on a voluntary basis to help as a feeder/trainer at our junior coaching sessions. Consideration will also be given to youngsters who are making good progress at our Sunday coaching school. Entry forms and letter giving details of and requirements for specific events will be sent out in early January.

Spectators would be more than welcome.

### **Thank You Terry**

It is always nice to receive an accolade for the work we do with our youngsters, and so I thought I would show you the email I received from Terry Everitt (Arto Dragons) after he had been down to help as a trainer/feeder at a Saturday coaching session..

Hi Roger,

Thank you for your newsletter which I found most interesting.

You and your team, along with the parents of the juniors there must be very proud of what you are achieving at Warren Springs Table Tennis club. I certainly was not expecting the excellence of what I saw there last Saturday afternoon, you and your team have captured the true essence of what Table Tennis is all about.

My late dad, who incidentally was a good player himself, spent many hours teaching me when I was a young boy and I know that he would have thought the same if he was still here. I would be thrilled to get the opportunity of helping you all again, and if I do, I will make sure that I am there for the complete afternoon session.

I am usually always available on a Saturday, so please do not hesitate to call or e-mail me, if you need me.



Hope to see you soon  
Best Regards  
Terry

**Big Brother is watching you – You can run but you cannot hide**

Your roving reporter spied B team member Gabby Tankel out and about in the local Asda store shopping for bargains (or should that be ten years' supply of orange juice). "I haven't done my makeup she protested". We think she looks great anyway.

### **New Signing**

The club would like to officially welcome new signing Marlon Frankson who has already begun playing for our A team in the premier division. Before joining us, Marlon played for Bedwell in Stevenage. He also represents Ellenborough (Enfield) in the St.Albans, Hatfield & Welwyn (SHAW) League.

### **A New Coach in the Club**

We offer congratulations to Dante Lacorte who has just successfully passed his Level 1 coaching course. Don't worry Dante; we shall soon be putting your skills to use.

