

BLACKMORE VALE TABLE TENNIS LEAGUE

Newsletter - December 2017

Dear B.V.T.T.L members,

Malcolm Penney

As you will know by now, we have sadly lost one of the longest serving members and stalwart of the Blackmore Vale League following a very brave fight with his illness.

In his time playing in the league, Malcolm was also a very active member of the committee and fulfilled a number of roles over many years. Probably the most notable of these was the position of Match and Press Secretary which he carried out for over 25 years, combining great diligence, a mastery of the technicalities of arranging fixture lists, recording scores, producing league tables and writing reports to various newspapers.

Malcolm wasn't just good at all the roles he undertook, he was always very approachable, a genuinely nice man to talk to and a tricky player at the other end of the table as well.

He was also very diplomatic and we should all be grateful to him as he took over as Chairman for a few years at a time when the future of the league was looking doubtful. With his gentle guidance the league has survived and will continue to do so because of the legacy of his leadership.

Always a gentleman, Malcolm will be sorely missed by us all and our thoughts are with his brother Graham at this very sad time.

Handicap League

The handicap league has now been completed and the committee would like to thank you all for participating in something that is completely different from normal. Barrie is currently carrying out a review and is gathering players views on the way it has run and if we should continue with it for next season. So far the views are mixed and we would like to receive more please. If you would like to contribute please email Barrie at barriewaterman.co.uk. The handicap league table is available to view on the TT365 website.

Handicap Team Knockout Cup

Not to be confused with the format we have played during the first half of the season, the team knockout cup will be played again this season with the first round to be played week commencing 15th January 2018.

The draw for the first round is as follows –

Child Okeford B home to Compton C

Compton D home to CV Robins

Compton A home to Stalbridge

East Stour B home to Child Okeford C

East Stour A home to Child Okeford E

Child Okeford D, CV Nightjars and Compton B will all have a bye into the second round.

The format for this is as we have played in previous years with two legs to 21 and then add the handicap allowance to achieve the final score. There will be 5 serves and the away team is awarded a half point. The draw and the player's individual handicaps have been posted on the TT365 website.

In order that we can fit this competition into the league programme, it is being run during the same week as the tournaments. Fortunately following the draw, there are no clashes with the tournament night of Wednesday 17th January (phew!).

Tournaments

Stuart, Eric and Simon will be running the tournaments again this year at the Stalbridge Hall on the following dates –

17th January – Div 1 singles, Div 2 singles and Handicap Doubles

14th March – Vets and Super Vets

11th April – Open and Handicap Singles and Open Doubles

All the tournaments will start at 7pm and entries can be made direct to Stuart on his email address –

stuartangell1308@gmail.com

League Format for January 2018

From the 1st of January the league will return to a standard format of teams competing on a home and away basis playing best of 5 legs to 11 points. The league will be split into two divisions as follows –

Division One – Child Okeford B and C, Compton A, B and C, Stalbridge

Division Two – CV Nightjars and Robins, Child Okeford D and E, East Stour A and B, Compton D.

Simon has been busy and has produced a fixture list for the rest of the season and this has been posted on the TT365 website. Because of the few teams that we have available for each division, it will mean that there are four free weeks for Div One teams and two free weeks for Div Two.

And Finally.....

The committee would like to wish you all a Very Happy Christmas and a hugely enjoyable New Year for 2018!

Best wishes

The Committee