TRIUMPH FOR COVENTRY’S RYAN STOCKHAM

WARWICKSHIRE TABLE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS 2013-2014

The 2013-2014 Warwickshire Championships were played last Sunday at Warwick’s St Nicholas Park Sports Centre and Ryan Stockham, from the Phoenix club and the Coventry No1, achieved his ambition to win the Warwickshire Men Singles title for the first time.

After comfortably winning his matches in the group stages and early rounds Ryan, the No.2 seed, beat Birmingham’s Edward Lynn 12-10 11-6 11-8 in the semi final to set up a final against Leamington’s Laurence Sweeney, the tournaments No.1 seed and strong favourite for the title.

The final was always going to be a hard match with Ryan having to curb the strong attack of Laurence, but Ryan was in no mood to concede ground and gradually dominated the match with his serves and two winged attack to win the title 11-8 9-11 11-8 11-3.

Ryan also teamed up with Birmingham’s Kate Hughes (who herself won the Ladies title) to win the Mixed Doubles title without dropping a game beating Rugby’s Milly Bradshaw and Ryan Lines in the final 11-3 11-9 11-3.

Another Coventry player to play well was Chris Hughes (Beechwood Club) who reached the semi final of the Over 50 Veterans competition losing to Leamington’s Phil Paine 11-13 7-11 11-5 9-11.