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Isle of Wight

Table Tennis League

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

During the last month, progress has been made towards renewal of the land lease upon which the Smallbrook Centre sits. A draft lease is now in place subject to final review by both parties. A meeting was held with our landlords, Island Speedway. This was an introductory session to discuss any issues and consider ways in which more could benefit could be realised from the total facilities that exist on the Smallbrook site.

The scoring system for the Knowles Cup has been a hot topic of debate. Whilst no changes can be implemented for this year, the decision on how the competition is scored will be a topic for the next AGM or EGM, hopefully we will get some factual information upon which to base our vote via the newsletter ahead of time.

Heather Wykes has created a short welcome letter to be handed to any new members on initial visits to the Centre. It gives all the essential information and directs people to the website

<https://www.tabletennis365.com/IsleOfWight>.

Enjoy your table tennis!

John.

News in Brief

The 2017-18 season is now underway.

In Division 1 Chris Angus kept up his Summer League form with a hat-trick as the Royals drew with Vics B.

Ryde Run of the Mill (or JC and the Sunshine Band as they may also be called) indicated that they will be strong Div 2 contenders with a 9-1 humbling of Vics D and a 7-3 defeat of Vics C.

Saints already look the team to beat in Div 3 as Derek and the boys delivered a 9-1 lesson to newcomers Ryde Revellers and followed this with a 7-3 win over Ryde Rookies.

It's good to see a combination of new players and former players in league action.

Players to watch this season include Hugh Idle, Sean Joyce, Conal Howells, Darol Wilson and Jo Turner

The Knowles Cup is now into the semi-final stage. Newport are dominating this tournament with three of the four semi-finalists.

Quarter final results are detailed below:

Shorwell 1 Newport Vics B 8

Ryde Run of the Mills 4 Ryde Royals 5

Newport Vics D 7 Rookley Hippos 2

Newport Vics C 5 Shanklin B 4

Hugh Idle and Don Hobbs will contest The Gordon Burns Cup on Finals night in 2018.

As usual, this column will look to provide a source of stories, news and gossip from all of the leagues over the season so don't be shy in letting me know of any incidents that need to be shared with readers.

Next newsletter: November 2017. Please submit comments, articles, news by November 13th to [Ian Loosemore](mailto:ian@loosemore.com)

Coaching Corner:

Coaching corner is a big fan of Tom Lodziak's monthly newsletter. The latest issue addresses pre-match nerves – at every level of the game it seems that nerves play a part. Channeling and controlling the nerves can make a big difference. See what Tom has to say at: <http://www.tabletenniscoach.me.uk>

Some other sites worth a look are:

: <http://www.tabletenniscoaching.com/home>
 : <https://www.experttabletennis.com/about/>
 : <https://triangletabletennis.com/>

Junior Coaching has already started and takes place every Saturday at Smallbrook from 10am -12noon. Spread the word & get your children and grand-children involved in the game.

We need more coaches! If you are interested in coaching or helping out then get in contact with [Mike Prior](mailto:mike.prior@tabletennis.co.uk)

Back in Time

A brief feature this month...

Thanks to Alison for supplying the photo below. She thinks it is from an Awards Evening in the late 60's. It looks remarkably like an old 6th form school photo! Can anyone help identify those in the line-up? We can probably rustle up a prize for the person correctly identifying the most people. Send your entries to [Ian Loosemore](mailto:ian@loosemore.com)

Don't be shy - please dig out any photos from yesteryear for us to publish. It's good to be able to show that there was life before mobile phones and the internet!

The stars of Island Table Tennis in the 1960's.

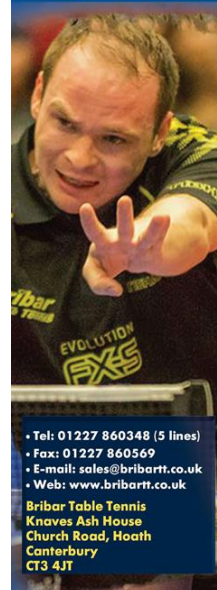


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Calling all Island table-tennis legends past, present & future! Let us feature you in The IWTTA e-newsletter. Contact [Ian Loosemore](#)

Did you know

A couple of weeks in and already the excuses for losing sound familiar:

He's got a funny bat; The table is too fast / slow; nets & edges; Too bright / dark; too noisy; I never like playing there; I forgot my water bottle; I haven't played for ages; I've got a bad back; Foul serves; I'm trying a new bat; I can't see with these glasses on etc etc.

However it's not just us. Here are some of the excuses from other sports:

The Jerseys Were Causing Bad Luck (Man Utd vs Southampton 1996). The other version of this was that the shirts were making United players invisible and unable to pass to each other!

My Jockstrap Was Too Tight. This was the [response](#) to Zambian tennis Lighton Ndefwayl's loss to Musumba Bwayla during a 1992 match.

Sri Lanka lost the ICC Champions Trophy final to Pakistan in 2001 and did not blame their performance for the loss...They blamed tight clothes.

My girlfriend distracted me when I gave up the decisive goal in a 1-0 loss to Switzerland : Iker Casillas (Goalkeeper for Spain)

Newcastle manager Kenny Dalglish sprung a surprise excuse when the premier league side drew with Stevenage in a 1998 fourth-round FA Cup tie."The ball were too bouncy," Dalglish claimed.

In a game of computer chess the reason given for losing was: My cat urinated on my keyboard.

Of course every now and again, perish the thought, it just might be that the person we're playing against was a better player and deserved to win!

Let me know of any top excuses you hear during the season....

See you next month!



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