

Isle of Wight

Table Tennis League



CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

Hello and welcome to the first IWTTA e-newsletter.

I recently took up the offer to work alongside the current [Management Committee](#), in the role of Chairman, following on from Barry Joyce who did 3 years at the helm.

There are some key initiatives that the committee and I are working on. I hope that this newsletter will become a regular communication to all IWTTA members to keep you updated on these initiatives and provide a useful source of information and news to compliment our website.

We would welcome contributions towards future newsletters. Please send these into our Press Officer [Ian Loosemore](#)

In the meantime – enjoy your table tennis!

John Cornforth
(Chairman IWCTTA)

Island Games

Since 1980, the Island Games have taken place every two years. The event has grown over the years and now extends to 24 islands, involving 2500 participants in 14 sports. NatWest is the overall sponsor for the Island Games, supporting the 2017 Games, hosted by Gotland, Sweden. To compete, you must either have been born to a member island or have resided there for 12-months prior to the Games.

There will be competitions for men and women, doubles, mixed doubles, plus a team competition. All of which will take place at [Sodervarnshallen](#).

The team of six, selected to represent the Isle of Wight at the 2017 Games, are Danny Burns, Don Hobbs, Simon Proffitt, Oli Staniforth, Temeesha Hobbs, and Anna Joyce. Danny has volunteered to be Team Manager and practice starts in earnest after Christmas.

The Isle of Wight has a track record of success in table tennis at the Island Games winning 22 gold medals since 1987. Whilst our 2017 team may be outsiders for a medal we can be sure they will give their best effort and give a good account of themselves and of Isle of Wight table tennis. We wish them well.

On behalf of the team, we would like to offer a huge thank you to Martin Dove, who has got this initiative off the ground and started some much appreciated fund raising for the team. To contribute hard cash or ideas for raising money for the team please contact [Martin Dove](#)



Knowles
Cup

Matches
to be
played
by
Jan 6th

Home sweet Home

Many of us rock up, play & go home. As with many things that seem to work like magic, there is a lot going on behind the scenes that mean we have an Isle of Wight Table Tennis Centre and a place for many of us to practice and play matches.

The table tennis centre at Smallbrook opened in 1994. In it's time it has been The Smallbrook Centre, The Carl Preat Table Tennis Centre and now has the title of The Isle of Wight Table Tennis Centre.

There have been many changes and modifications to the centre over the years. The Centre hasn't yet become the fully equipped centre of excellence that was envisaged. There are frustrations at the lack of access by public transport.

Nevertheless, the centre hosts over 500 matches in a calendar year and has come a long way since being scrubland 22 years ago. It is also the biggest area of expenditure for Isle of Wight table tennis.

Recent improvements have included the toilets, the new rear door, the main entrance – in addition to numerous repairs & replacements. Disabled toilets, ladies toilets and lighting are all on the “to-do” list.

The centre's lease is up for renewal in December 2017 and the management committee are preparing their negotiation position for renewal well in advance.

Without the dedication of Martin Dove and the voluntary contributions / goodwill of IWTTA members our sport wouldn't have a major facility.

We will keep you informed of progress. We will also ask for your help & look to draw on the variety of expertise within our membership to help run and develop the centre. If you want to volunteer either your professional skills or your time then please contact [Martin Dove](#)

For details of daily duties and activities at the centre please go to www.tabletennis365.com/IsleOfWight

The youth of today....

We wanted to flag up the work being done with schools by Don Hobbs and Mike Prior. They have been holding coaching sessions for several Island schools at The Isle of Wight Table Tennis Centre.

Frustrating as it can be for us older players to be beaten by a 15 year old prodigy who doesn't even have the decency to look tired, it is essential that we do what we can to encourage young players to take part in our sport. There is a lot of competition for youngster's time and we need to look at ways of making our sport more accessible and user friendly for the younger generation.

Let us hope Don & Mike can unearth some new talent and encourage them to join their nearest club.

We need more competition so that our cadet teams can be strong and competitive. To find out more about the coaching on offer for children or to help with coaching contact: [Don Hobbs](#) or [Mike Prior](#)

One to one coaching for those looking to improve their game is also on offer. Contact: [Mike Prior](#)

Any suggestions to encourage youth membership across all clubs are welcome.

SANTA MIKE!!!

Keep being asked what you want for Christmas? Point enquiries towards Mike Prior who can source various gift ideas from Bribar! Also handy to get presents for those already playing or ready to start.

Visit www.bribart.co.uk and contact [Mike Prior](#) for discounts.



Call
811711

Contact [Martin Dove](#) to purchase table tennis balls



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