

Isle of Wight

Table Tennis League

TIBHAR

Special Offers...

As used by 2017
English National
Champions
Paul and Jo Drinkhall

Bribar
Table Tennis



CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

We appeared to have rounded off the league season with a hectic round of tournaments. I hope everyone has enjoyed these and I would especially like to thank Mike Prior for putting lots of hard work in preparing and running these.

The summer league is now scheduled to commence on the 3rd May. This is a great competition for everyone to take part in, especially newcomers to the game before perhaps joining the winter league later in the year.

We will be giving formal notification of the date for the AGM soon which is likely to be held in sometime in July. Could you all give some thought to any proposals you would like addressed at the AGM as these need to be submitted to the committee for consideration by 12th May latest. Nominations for management committee positions are also welcome.

Enjoy your table tennis!

John.

News in brief

A competitive and high calibre finals night saw outcomes decided in The Island Championships and The Gordon Burns Cup. Congratulations to all winners. A winner's role of honour will be up on the [website](#)

As John says above: A big "WELL DONE" done to Mike Prior for getting the tournament schedule in order and running the events so efficiently. If you have time Mike, can you please sort out the country's trains?!!

To help Mike organise our 2018 tournament programme please fill out and return the attached [questionnaire](#). (Right click and save the pdf on your pc, open it in Acrobat



Isle of Wight
County Press
Tournament

April 26th
7:15 pm

Smallbrook

Entries by
April 21st
to
Mike Prior

Reader and you can select the drop downs and add text in the highlighted fields, **save the file** and email it back to [Mike Prior](#)

The **County Press** tournament will be held on Weds 26th. Entries are welcome up until April 21st.

The Summer League will start on May 3rd .

Congratulations to Temeesha Hobbs who received an Isle of Wight Sports Foundation Award for her commitment to table tennis. <http://www.iwcp.co.uk/news/sport/isle-of-wight-sports-stars-celebrated-97991.aspx>

Temeesha's role of honour to date includes:

Nationally Ranked 46 in Junior Girls, 59th Women's U21 and 146 for Senior Women School U16 individual winner

Cadet, Junior and Ladies Island Singles Champion

Div 1: With some matches still to be played Newport Vics A are leading the way with Ryde A in hot pursuit.

Div 2: Well done to Tom, Steve and Carl as Rookley B win the Division and go unbeaten during the season. Congratulations to Alan, Dave, Karen, Bernie and Vic as Havenstreet B pip Newport Vics C to second place

Div 3: Well done Newport Vics D (Matt, Ray and John) – promoted as champions along with runners-up Ryde G (John, Alison, Peter and Pauline)

Well done to Tom Johnson. Tom won a silver medal on his debut at The National Disabled Table Tennis Championship held in Grantham in April. Tom competed against para olympians who had medal success at the recent Rio Olympics, and World ranked players.

Newport Boys Brigade have been playing table tennis in a national competition. The team (Michael Joyce, Sean Joyce and James Dixon) fought their way through to the National final beating teams from Southampton, Wolverhampton and London on the way. The final was in Liverpool. Despite being a man down, Michael and Sean got through to the semi-finals before bowing out. Well done lads!

The Isle of Wight cadets team (Sean Joyce, Sophie Westhorpe, James Westhorpe) finished 3rd in the Southern National Cadet League (Division 3). The team had some notable victories and Sean was undefeated in his matches.

Mike Jose has been causing a stir in Division 2 by umpiring while standing up. It's not so much the standing up as the "rock-god" pose! Unfortunately there is no truth in the rumour that next season Mike will umpire in the style of [David Coverdale](#) in his Whitesnake pomp – leather trousers, pelvic thrusts and all.... shame!

Next newsletter: May 17th. Please submit comments, articles, news by May 5th to [lan Loosemore](#)

Coaching Corner

This month, Mike Prior continues his coaching tips on serving:

Tips for serving (Part 2).

- To maximise the amount of spin you need to use your wrist and not just your arm.
- For backspin aim to make contact near the bottom of the ball NOT the back.
- For a float ball you can hit through the back of the ball.
- To understand using sidespin it is best to consider the effect the spin has on your opponent.
 - When returning serve you need to watch the servers bat and observe both the direction in which it travels and the point of contact of the ball on the bat.
 - To return side spin watch the direction that the bat travels across the ball. Whichever side of the ball the bat starts then aim to that side of the table, regardless of from where it is played.



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**Summer
League**

**Starts
May 3rd**

**To enter
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Mike Prior**

- Once you have mastered this you will realise that you can direct the ball wherever you want by making contact with the correct side of the ball to counter the sidespin.
 - As well as the sidespin you also need to take into account the angle of the bat as to whether contact was near the top or bottom of the ball. This will of course also add a degree of either topspin or backspin to the ball.
 - Most players will often play cross-court when under pressure. If you direct your sidespin serve so that your opponent needs to aim cross-court, they are likely to correct the spin even if they were not aware it had sidespin. You would have played a riskier serve to no avail. However if you place the ball so that your opponent needs to play 'down the line', should they not realise the spin on the ball your spin will have full effect. Another way of looking at this is to make your opponent have to make contact with the side of the ball nearest the centre table line.
 - With good use of side spin and placement you can better control where your opponent will return the ball for your next shot.
- Although the serve is an 'open' stroke such that the ball and bat must be capable of being seen throughout the serve, you can nevertheless aim to disguise the type and or amount of spin on the ball. This is achieved by varying the contact point of the ball on the bat and or changing the bat angle or direction at the last second.
 - When using the advanced forehand service both top and backspin can be achieved depending on whether contact is made on the part of the bat travelling downward (backspin), or the part travelling upward (topspin). You must use the outside of the bat to maximise the spin as this is the part travelling fastest and which will bring the ball into contact with more rubber. However if you make contact nearer the handle or top of the bat you will achieve a float all.
 - The aim is always to have a similar action which can be used to produce different effects on the ball.
 - For example, you may use a simple backspin action making contact at the bottom of the bat so that the ball will contact the rubber for the whole width of the bat to achieve backspin. However if you delay making contact so that the ball only catches the top of the bat being brushed only by a small part of the rubber you will impart very little if any spin (float). If your opponent is unaware of the change and believes the ball to have backspin they might open their bat too much and provide you with an easy high float ball to attack.
 - Alternatively you may flick your wrist making the bat move down, up or across the ball but sometimes before or after making contact with the ball. This will suggest that that spin has been imparted when it is a float ball.

REMEMBER – THE SERVE IS THE EASIEST WAY TO WIN (or lose) A POINT. A weak serve or a weak return would normally lose the rally, so it is well worth practicing.

Next issue:- Service Receive.

For help or further information please contact [Mike Prior](#) at Isle of Wight Table Tennis Centre.

For more coaching tips and a variety of excellent table-tennis advice visit: <http://www.tabletenniscoach.me.uk>

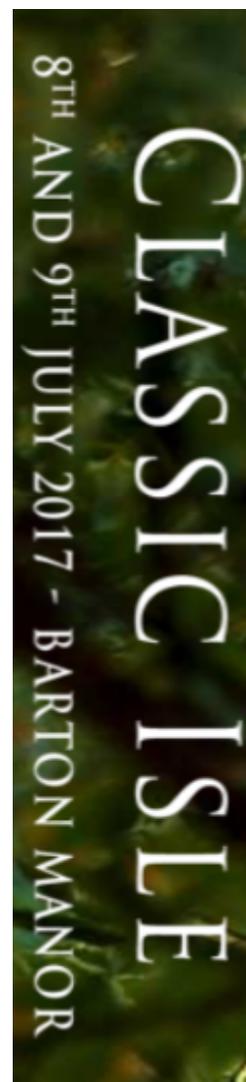
Player Feature: Alan Hulbert

Mild-mannered, modest and all round good bloke Alan Hulbert is a stalwart of Isle of Wight table-tennis. With a little bit of persuasion Alan agreed to give a potted history of his time in Island table-tennis. Below is a fascinating account of Alan's involvement in Island table tennis. I hope you find it as interesting as I did. Thanks Alan:

"I moved to the Island in 1971 coming from Fulham with Temperature Ltd which used to have a factory on the now, Spithead Estate.



World War II Air Crashes here on the Island



We had a table tennis table in the canteen and during the lunch times used to have a knock with some of my work colleagues. Sometime during the following summer we had a chap come to fit some Venetian blinds and he noticed our table and said why didn't we join the league, his name was Don Penny and he played for Wroxall.

We started to arrange some friendly games with Columbia, Ryde School, Ronsons and Wroxall . Our team initially was Paul Ridgeway, Roy Atkinson and myself With Terry Seward playing occasionally. We had a year of friendlies and it was decided that we were good enough to enter the 4th division. There were 5 divisions at that time with 12 teams in each. We played in that division for maybe 2 years finishing 3rd or 4th, not quite making it into division 3. In the meantime we managed to get another team which included Matt Mair - it is nice to see him back playing for Newport. It was difficult not encountering spin in those early days and we used to get beaten by the youngsters of Columbia and Ryde School who always seemed to be in a division too low and won most of the lower division titles.

We then had a set back and lost one of our team members and so were without a first team as the season was about to start and had to scratch. I was invited to play for Wroxall by Bill Kittle and played with Ian Young and Janice Badcock. I had appendicitis in February 1983 so didn't play for the rest of the season. During my time at Wroxall I had several different team mates, Bill included plus Paul Brading and Dave Johnson to name just a couple. Bill left to live on the mainland and I was nominated to continue his good work. I took a 1st stage coaching course at the Vic's venue and took coaching of the Wroxall youngsters including Kevin Gatrell.

In 1989 I was elected (pressed ganged really!) Chairman of the IWTTTC . During those years we entered junior and cadet teams on the mainland and I used to take them on Sundays to Redbridge, Southampton. We were picked up from the ferry terminal and taken to the venue. We also applied to enter a Veterans team on the mainland, so we had the full set. One year the juniors won every game with maximum wins. We also had a second county team run for the younger players who had finished their junior involvement. That ceased after a couple of years due to costs but at least it gave them an insight to senior levels.

We applied to enter the Island Games in 1991 which was held in Aland. We had a year of fund raising, incorporating coffee mornings, jumble sales etc. This made for a very united team spirit where everyone pulled their weight and we had fun doing it. Roger Hookey, who couldn't play also gave us support. We managed to raise enough money to pay our fare etc. for the games. The team comprised, Martin and Sue Mitchell, Pete and Marcell Urry, John and Heather Wykes and myself. We didn't win anything but the main aim of the exercise was that we were hosting the games in 1993 so we needed to see how the format went. My partner, Martin Mitchell and I did beat the eventual doubles silver medallist from the Faroes, in the team event. We only needed one game from either of us to go through to the quarter finals in the team event but sadly we both lost in 3 sets.

In 1993 I retired as Chairman. We hosted the Games that year, the Table Tennis being held at the holiday centre at Appley. We managed to win a gold medal in the ladies singles thanks to Regina Stevens who played for Cowes High School. Thanks to Heather and Sue for running around with the scores!

During that year Dave Johnson and I took a group of youngsters to the Isle of Man to have a long weekend of table tennis. Up and coming cheeky youngster Danny Burns was among them. All had a very enjoyable experience.

During my chairmanship we had full houses at our annual presentation evenings at the Eversly Hotel Ventnor owned by Sandy Striken, (who then played for St. Lawrence) with 100+ guests, the magician David Randini performed a show for us and at other times a band for dancing.

During 1993 (I think) Chris Angus and Steve Bardsdall and I, managed to win the 1st division title from Sandown who had held it for a number of years. Wroxall Community then decided to charge for the practise evening , after previously saying that they would let us have the evening free if we would move our league games to the community centre from the church hall. The cost was too great so we moved which was a shame. I arranged to play at Westlands (now GKN) and some of our teams played there, also we managed to recruit new players into the team and founded a youth team in East Cowes which ran for a few years.

I used to go around a few clubs inc. Ventnor, Vics, Ryde and St. Lawrence to do a spot of coaching and to help out, encouraging new players and families to play. I had a couple of breaks from playing, coming back to play for Ryde with Martin Dove,



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Contact

Ian Loosemore

we had a good laugh playing. I did play for Havenstreet with Kevin Gatrell for a few seasons but gave up for a while and my place was taken by Vaughn Urry. I then played for Cowes Community (a shed in the cricket ground) in the 2nd division for a couple of seasons until our secretary had a dispute over fines with the then chairman. Vaughn left for the mainland so I was re-united with Havenstreet where I have played ever since.

During my early years the league enjoyed seven divisions each comprising twelve teams, sadly we are now reduced to three divisions with a reduced team population. Hopefully with the coaching input, that will increase. We had quite a few venues which have since disappeared, the likes of Freshwater, Cowes Liberal, Wroxall, GKN, Sandown, Boys Brigade, Ronsons, The Police, Southern Electric and Cowes High School and few others that I can't call to mind. We need more new clubs formed in various villages and it's nice to see a new club, Shorewell, in the league."

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

Did You Know?

The international language of table-tennis: How to make friends on holiday...

Quieres jugar al ping-pong conmigo?

Do you want to play table tennis with me? Italian

Dovremmo stare insieme qualche volta, giocare a tennis da tavolo

We should get together sometime, play some table tennis: Spanish

On devrait se voir des fois, jouer au tennis de table.

We should get together sometime, play some table tennis: French

Du bist die Verdamnis des Tischtennis.

You are the menace of table tennis: German

Hij speelde tafeltennis als de duivel in korte broek

He played table tennis like the devil in shorts: Dutch

Jest dobry w ping-ponga.

He's good at table tennis: Polish

Good luck with that!

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