**League Report**

**Courier, 30th March**

**Colebridge zoomed to the top of Division 1 when they swept aside close rivals Rugby A 9-1. Paul Lenormand and Ben Willson won all of their singles and combined for the doubles with County Ladies Champion Kate Hughes nailing two but losing out to Ryan Lines. This was followed by another 9-1 win over bottom team County Council A. Hughes and Lenormand won their threes, Ben Willson scored twice, losing to Chris Maiden, and stepped up with Lenormand to pocket the doubles. The Brummies are 4 points clear at the top having played a game more than St Georges B whilst Council are 20 points adrift of their closest rivals. WCC’s cause was further hindered when they fell 9-1 to County Council B. Simon Griew and Murray Stevenson grabbed hat-tricks and the doubles and Nilton Green won twice, falling to Maiden.The big shock in this Division was the comprehensive defeat of third placed Free Church A by struggling St Georges A who won 8-2. Damon Fenton claimed a maximum, Matt Jordan and Earl Sweeney contributed braces and Fenton and Jordan took the doubles. Sam Weaving and Sam Wiggins grabbed the consolations. Free Church B eased themselves to 7th with a close win, 6-4, over 8th placed Wellesbourne. Jack Green and Harry Purewal each won twice and snatched the doubles 12-10 in the 5th. Charlotte Spencer provided the winning point. Gary Stewart (2), Jack Davis (1) and John Price (1) ensured the match went to the wire.**

**Free Church E moved to third in Division 2 with a 7-3 success over Rugby C. Chris Blowey proved unbeatable in singles and collected the doubles with Emily Beasley who added a single. Phil Blowey lifted E to 7 with a couple of wins. Dan Burgess was their chief worry with two and Christine Scaysbrook won once. FC E found life tougher against 4th placed Millennium A who held them to a draw. Phil Blowey won a treble and Emily and Ian Beasley singles. Pete Harris (2) and Christian Ward (2) also took the doubles in reply.**

**The top two clashed in Division 3 with leaders Whitnash B strengthening their grip after beating Snitterfield A 6-4 despite Michael Credland’s maximum and a single from Tim Fell. Greg Swan and Dennis Woodhead each won twice and paired for the doubles with Richard Smith adding a vital point. Bottom side Warwick University A put in their best performance of the season with a 6-4 triumph over County Council D. Arslan Awan (3), Michael Farmer (2) and Krzystof Bolhuis (1) saw them over the winning line. Steve Poole (2) guided Ian Stevens (1) to the doubles for WCC. County Council D then drew with fellow strugglers Free Church G. Stevens (3) and Poole (2) got them to 5 with Eve Briscoe (2), Tom Fletcher (1) and Jenny Singleton (1) plus the doubles from the girls giving a positive response. Third placed St Georges D had to settle for a stalemate when facing Flavels. Trevor Bradley won his three for the factorymen as well as steering son Sam to the doubles and Mick Bennett posted one. Richard Grover (2), Jerry Simmons (2) and Tracey Fletcher (1) kept it tight.**

**A strengthened Warwick University B accounted for second placed Free Church L 7-3. Adam Green won his three as did newcomer Eddie Lyons and Green and Sacha Dennett won the doubles. Nicholas Ho, Owain Jones and Richgard Pittaway salvaged some pride for Church who nonetheless sit securely in runners-up spot. Previously the students had fallen 8-2 to Eathorpe C , Sam Pattison winning their two. Luca Bloodworth (3), Marcel Bloodworth (2) and James Stone (2) plus a Luca Bloodworth/ Stone doubles win saw Eathorpe safely home. Rugby E’s recent form has gained them a top half place and County Council were cast away 9-1 thanks to triples from Sarah James and Grace Newman and a double from Lesley Summers. James and Newman secured the doubles with Jeremy Sampson taking a consolation. Leaders Free Church K consigned Eathorpe B to third place after a 7-3 win. Darren Laffey (3), Nick Darwen (2) and Keith Knott (1) plus a Darwen/ Laffey doubles win achieved the victory with the villagers replying through Jim Levack (2) and Charlie Wragg (1). Free Church J are a close 5th and defeated County Council F 8-2. Janice Rowan starred with three and the doubles with Catherine McAuley who won twice. Jill Weaving also had two successes. Simon Chalker (2) notched Council’s tally.**

**Snitterfield B went 10 points clear at the top of Division A and took all 5 points from third placed FISSC A. Michael Klein and Ron Shakesheff were invincible. Second placed Rugby F enjoyed a 4-1 win at Ashorne A. Tie Chen (2) helped daughter Angel (1) to the doubles with Roger Pye preventing the whitewash.**

**Eathorpe E pipped Free Church O 3-2 in Division B with Richard Freeman and Dave Hawker getting singles and the doubles. Both fell to Alex Costa. Free Church N held on to top place with a narrow 3-2 victory over Ashorne C. Phil Booth won his two and Dan Strand added one. Jim Jack replied with a single and steered Tony Philpott to the doubles.**

**Division C leaders Free Church P went down 3-2 to Eathorpe F despite two wins from Owain Jones. Ben James and David Tait took the remaining points.**

**In Division D County Council F were involved in two close encounters, winning one and losing one. Eathorpe G were pipped 3-2 with Simon Chalker taking his two and guiding Peter Whidborne to the doubles. John Gymer and Paul Holtby responded. They then went down by the same margin to Free Church U, whose Dan Stone won twice and David Knott once. Bernard Hardingham (1) helped Jeff Millward to the doubles.**

**Eathorpe J held on to their lead at the summit of Division E when defeating their K team 3-2. Declan Jay and Josh Jay for L and Ben Anderton and Aaron Heel for K all claimed a single and it was left to the Jay twins to wrap up the doubles.**

**National Cadet League**

**Day 4 Wellingborough**

**Three teams from Lillington Free Church and one from Rugby competed on the final day of the National Cadet League, staged in Wellingborough on Sunday.**

**After Day 3 Lillington A were lying second. A 6-0 win over Bedford, a 5-1 success against St Neots A, which included two fine wins for Eduardo Bolanos and Tom Yarrow over England number 93 Mark Balon, and a 4-2 win over Milton Keynes added to a draw with Corby Smash consolidated the runners-up spot by a margin of 15 points but they could do nothing about a strong Draycott A (Long Eaton) side who romped to the title by 11 points, defeating Lillington 5-1 in the process. Josh Yarrow finished third in the averages on 80%, Eduardo Bolanos returned 63% and reserve Tom Yarrow a very encouraging 60%.**

**Lillington B led Division 2 going in to Day 4 and were not to disappoint, taking the title by 10 points. They defeated their C side 5-1, Owain Jones nabbing C’s consolation, and accounted for Rugby 5-1. In this match of local interest Nicholas Ho beat William Chen and Alex Bowe, Joe Shrimpton defeated Chen and Josh Tyagi and Eleanor Fletcher beat Tyagi but lost to Bowe. Bedford B were also swept aside 5-1, St Neots B were pipped 4-2 and Lillington recovered from 1-3 down to draw with Draycott B. Reserve Joe Shrimpton, playing as number 3, did his team mates proud by winning 90% of his matches. Nicholas Ho and Eleanor Fletcher were not far behind with 70% returns.**

**A weakened Lillington C who had exceeded expectations by achieving a place in Division 2 and who were 5th after Day 3, had a day to remember, hauling themselves to a comfortable 4th position with some excellent performances. Despite the loss to their B team they thumped Rugby 5-1 with Jones beating Tyagi and Chen, Chris Ho accounting for Tyagi and Tyler Humphries and George Barnes also beating Humphries but losing to Chen. Another 5-1 win was achieved against Bedford B, St Neots B were dispatched 4-2 and Draycott B held to a 3-3 draw. Number one George Barnes enjoyed a 60% average, whilst Jones and debutant Chris Ho both posted impressive 50% returns. With only Josh Yarrow being too old to play in the Cadets next season, Lillington’s future looks rosy.**

**Rugby finished 5th in the strong Division 2. As well as their encounters with the Lillington sides they had an excellent win over runners-up Draycott by a 4-2 margin. Bedford B were held 3-3 and a narrow 2-4 loss was recorded in their match with St Neots B. Using a squad of 4, Alex Bowe’s average was an impressive 72%, William Chen bagged 37%, Tyler Humphries 25% and Josh Tyagi 14%.**