**League Report**

**27th April 2018**

Colebridge A kept the pressure on Division 1 leaders St Georges B with an outstanding 9-1 demolition of a strong Rugby A. Paul Lenormand and Ben Willson pocketed 7 of the points and Kate Hughes recorded an impressive double, ceding one single to Ryan Lines. They trail Georges by 7 points with one match to play. St. Georges B made life for the chasers even more difficult with a whitewash of bottom side County Council A, Mark Jackson, Laurence Sweeney and Ron Vose inflicting the damage. County Council B could finish 4th and a 10-0 drubbing of Phoenix courtesy of Nilton Green, Simon Griew and Murray Stevenson helped their cause. However, they are 14 points adrift of the present 4th placed encumbents, Free Church C, who held them to a draw. Griew 2, Green 1, Martyn Todd 1 and a Green/Griew doubles win gave them a share of the spoils but Church bounced back with braces from Ricardo Bolanos and Nikit Sajiv and a single from Dave Ramsey. Phoenix also lost to St Georges B 9-1, Mark Rose their solitary scorer. Jackson and Sweeney won their singles and the doubles and Vose mustered two. With one game to play Phoenix are 5 points clear of relegation.

Free Church E did their D side a huge favour by drawing with leaders Nomads A. Simon Nolan of the Radford based team, lost his first three matches of this season but won all three in this match to continue a remarkable run of 44 consecutive victories. He was helped by Paul Rowan and Tony Thomas who added singles. Phil Blowey (2), Ian Beasley (1) and Chris Blowey (1) replied with the Blowey brothers taking the doubles 17-15 in the 5th. Free Church D recorded two 7-3 wins. The first came against Free Church F with James Robertson winning his three, Livvy Fletcher two and Milan Sajiv one plus the doubles with Robertson. Anthony Smith (2) and Roald Myers (1) responded. FC D then overcame County Council C with Robertson again unbeaten in singles and Fletcher and Sajiv grabbing twos. Cliff Jackson won two for Council and took the doubles with Mark Freeman. FC D need 6 points from their last match to take the title. County Council C are 9 points clear of relegation but could still fall if the teams below win matches in hand. Their defeat to FC D was followed by an 8-2 reverse at Millennium A. Freeman and Jackson took a single each but trebles from Jack Garner and Christian Ward, who also clinched the doubles, plus a single from Rob Warnes thwarted further success. Rugby B pushed their C team nearer the relegation trap door after pipping them 6-4. C’s Dan Burgess was in top form winning his three and partnering Peter Ratcliffe to the doubles but two apiece from Jack Evans, Madu Ezedinma and Bradley Matthews steered B to victory.

Whitnash B have hauled themselves into a strong position in Division 3. After eclipsing struggling Free Church G 10-0 with the points coming from Richard Smith, Greg Swan and Dennis Woodhead they were taken a lot closer by St Georges D, emerging with a 6-4 success. Smith, Swan and Woodhead all won twice as did Andy Caine for Georges. Richard Grover assisted with a single and steered Jerry Simmons to the doubles. They need 11 points from their last two matches to overhaul the leaders, Snitterfield A, who were held to a draw by Rugby D. Michael Credland won his three and Stuart Ayres added two but Callum Ball (2), Steve Ball (1) and Stuart Mills (1) plus a Callum Ball/Mills doubles, prevented the villagers’ win. Rugby D had another tight encounter when facing Free Church H, losing 4-6. Eduardo Bolanos was Church’s star with a hat-trick, Josh Yarrow supplied two and took the crucial doubles with Ciara Hancox. Callun Ball (2), Dave Cox (1) and Mills (1) responded. Church H went on to draw with St Georges D who will finish third. Yarrow won his three, Bolanos took one and the pair won the doubles. Tracey Fletcher (2), Grover (2) and Caine (1) scored for Georges. Millennium B have been finishing the season strongly and edged out Flavels A 6-4, despite Trevor Bradley’s customary hat-trick and the doubles with Sam Bradley. Colin Astbury, Bob Clarke and Lewis Cox shared the remaining singles equally.

The two latest results from Free Church L probably guarantee them promotion in Division 4. The first was a draw against a strong Eathorpe C whose Luca Bloodworth posted a treble. James Stone added two but Church bounced back with a brace from Owain Jones and singles from Nicholas Ho and Richard Pittaway. Ho and Jones won the doubles. L then defeated the divisional leaders Free Church K, 7-3, though the result shouldn’t deny K the crown. Jerry Chung posted an impressive hat-trick which was matched by three from Nick Ho, the pair combining for the doubles. Nick Darwen, Eleanor Fletcher and Darren Laffey all took singles to leave K two points behind L with a match in hand. County Council E drew with their F side. William Hung and Carl Morgan each won twice and Jason Grey added one. For F, Simon Chalker notched a fine treble and partnered Peter Whidborne to a doubles victory. Richard Haigh (1) ensured parity. Council E went on to account for Free Church M 6-4. Grey and Hung recorded braces, Morgan chipped in with one and Grey and Hung secured the doubles. Marc Briscoe and Mark Singleton each won two for Church. Free Church M then swept aside Eathorpe C 8-2 thanks to a triple from Sajiv Swamy, twos from Jay Virdi and Tom Yarrow and a Swamy/Virdi doubles win. Luca Bloodworth bagged Eathorpe’s consolation points. Warwick University have improved enormously of late and they squeezed past another improving team, Rugby E, 6-4. Connor Perkins won his three and paired with Billy Summers to take the doubles. Adam Green added two. In reply, Sarah James tasted victory twice and Grace Newman and Lesley Summers notched singles.

Despite having matches still to play, Snitterfield B cannot be caught at the top of Division A. They romped to a 4-1 win over Ashorne B as Michael Klein won two and took thge doubles with Ron Shakesheff who won once. Jim Jack avoided the whitewash. Ashorne B also went down to their A side whose Roger Pye won twice. Steve Bolton contributed one with Steve Kay getting the better of him and aiding Anthony Austin to a doubles success.

In Division B second placed Free Church O were undone 3-2 by Ashorne C. All of the players, Anthony Austin and Barry Bayliss for the villagers and Church’s Alex Costa and Findlay Douglas won singles with Ashorne wrapping up the doubles.

Eathorpe F kept up their challenge for the Division C crown with a 3-2 win over FISSC B. David Tait won two and Bryn Davies added one, losing to Mandip Takhar. Martin Hamer and Takhar won the doubles. FISSC were then roasted by Eathorpe H 5-0 with Joshua Cope and James Rome always in the driving seat.

**National schools**

Four youngsters from Lillington Free Church TTC represented Warwickshire Schools in the National Schools Championships at Aldersley Leisure Centre in Wolverhampton on Saturday.

None of them managed to qualify from their groups but all 4 produced impressive performances. In the under 13 boys Eduardo Bolanos found himself up against England number 7 Todd Stanmore of Oxford and he lost in straight sets. However, he bounced back to run England number 10, Adam Szabo of Cambridgeshire, to 5 sets in an encounter which could easily have gone his way.

13 year old Nikit Sajiv had the daunting task of playing in the under 16 Boys singles but enjoyed two good wins against Archie Rayner of Norfolk and Jake Tucker of Somerset. He lost in straight sets to Freddie Osenton-Brown of Yorkshire and in 5 to Ben Edmunds of Devon.

Emily Beasley in the Girls under 16 singles had two good wins over Chloe Irvine of Cumbria and Chloe Pryke of Cambridgeshire before missing out in 5 to both Federica Bonato of Surrey, the England number 35, and Charlotte Weatherby of Durham who is ranked at 31.

Finally, Jack Green in the under 19s, won two of his 4 matches, beating James Neal of Cumbria and Laurence Pennant-Jones of Oxfordshire.