**Table-tennis Report**

**Courier, 16th January 2015**

League Chairman Malcolm Macfarlane, a driving force in local table-tennis for many years, has led the area to yet more success as the 2-a-side League has expanded to 5 divisions from 4 for its Spring campaign. Early indications are that the standard has been driven up with Autumn Division A runners-up Norton Lindsey A pasted 5-0 by newcomers Free Church AA in the guise of Mark Bolshaw and Jerry Simmons. Another new team, WCC G, collared FISCC 4-1 with Doug Lowe winning two plus the doubles with Steve Poole who won one. Mark Kingham replied. Champions Flavels A edged out Snitterfield B 3-2, for whom Henry Lu won twice. Steve Lyons and Roger Potts collected the other three points.

It was a similar story in Division B where runners-up Free Church N were nailed 3-2 by Rugby G, Callum Ball winning twice and taking the doubles with Archie West. Oscar Dalrymple and Charlie Snelson were the Church scorers.

In Division C Eathorpe E trounced Free Church Q 4-1 through Richard Freeman 2 and Jamie Sayer 1, the pair combining for doubles success. Emily Beasley had a good win in response. Relegated Free Church O also won 4-1, against Free Church P. Joss Farmer won both singles and the doubles with Ben Hall, who won once. Sebastian Priest avoided the whitewash.

Free Church T had lost twice to Eathorpe H without scoring a point before Christmas but edged a 3-2 Division D thriller this time round. Chris Jones won two and Nicholas Ho one with Tom Booth keeping the villagers in it with a single and the doubles with Luca Bloodworth. Eathorpe G won 3-2 against Free Church R thanks to Ben Barker’s double and James Stone’s single. Sophie Bethell won once and partnered Carolyn Dorning to a doubles win.

Free Church U enjoyed a 4-1 visit to Ashorne C in Division E with Emma Briscoe and Fran Singleton winning all the singles before losing the doubles to Matthew Quinn and Jason Wood. There were three debutants on show in the match between Free Church W and their club-mates V and one of them, 11 year old Sarah Costa, won both her singles. She could not prevent W going down 3-2 however as Alex O’Driscoll and Brody Speller took a single each and the doubles.

Top played bottom in Division 1 as Colebridge A claimed all 10 points from Enigmas courtesy of Sam Henderson, Mike Rinnhofer and Ben Willson. Free Church B eased relegation fears with a 6-4 win over County Council B. Jeff Harris, Sam Weaving and Sam Wiggins all won twice, though none could better Council’s Simon Griew who took three and the doubles with Nilton Green. County Council A beat struggling Colebridge B 7-3 Clive Irwin, Pat McCabe and Phil Paine all winning twice and wrapping up the doubles through Irwin and Paine. Vikas Bakshi, John Chandler and Farooq Kakar each posted a win in response. Free Church A have moved into third after beating Wellesbourne 8-2. Timmy Cooper and Lee Dorning won their singles and the doubles and Tom Brocklehurst added one. Alan Cotton and John Price gave Wellesbourne some joy.

Whitnash A have snatched second spot in Division 2 after overwhelming Rugby C 9-1. Kevin Arris and Paul Riman were hat-trick men and Dennis Woodhead won twice, falling to Ben Holvey. However, they trail Nomads A who won 8-2 at Eathorpe A with Andy Davies and Tony Thomas securing trebles and Ian Beasley winning twice. Pete Titmas replied and took the doubles with Chris Atkins. Third placed Free Church C are 5 points adrift after their 7-3 win over Millennium. A superb triple from Harry Purewal, a double from Kit Turner and a single from Scott Delday plus a Purewal/Turner doubles win saw them home with Christian Ward (2) and Barry Hook (1) the visiting scorers.

St Georges D opened up a 10 point cushion at the top of Division 3 winning 7-3 against Free Church G. Andy Caine claimed a hat-trick, Richard Grover won twice and notched the doubles with Tracey Fletcher who won once. County under 15 champion Lewis Singleton was on top form to win twice and James Robertson wrestled the other point. A 5 point gap covers the next 4 teams. Second placed County Council D lost 2-8 to third placed Free Church E. Phil Blowey and Tom Harris both posted impressive hat-tricks and Livvy Fletcher won twice. County Council C in joint 4th spot swept aside Nomads B 10-0 through Doug Lowe, Steve Poole and Ian Stevens with the other team in 4th, Flavels A, being held to a draw by Free Church F. Tom Meldrum was unbeaten for Church and Adam Pulman and Josh Wyatt-Smith added singles. Trevor Bradley and Dot Macfarlane were Flavels’ mainstays with two apiece and Roger Potts joined Bradley for the doubles.

County Council F played two matches in Division 4 last week and picked up their first two points through Richard Haigh. Council lost to Free Church H 1-9, Eve Briscoe (3), Jenny Singleton (3), Phil Booth (2) and Free Church K 1-9, Marc Briscoe (3), Nick Darwen (3) and Mark Singleton (2). Free Church H also played a second match edging Free Church I 6-4. Ricardo Bolanos won his three for I with Dan Shaw taking one. Jenny Singleton (2), Katie Singleton (2) and Eve Briscoe (1) plus a doubles win from the Singletons shaded the match for H. Free Church I then pasted Free Church J 9-1 Bolanos and Ciara Hancox unbeaten and Shaw winning twice before recording a doubles win with Hancox. Mike Weaving prevented a whitewash. Eathorpe C humbled County Council E 9-1, Paul Deavall (3), Michael Rossington (3) Sophie Cooper (1) plus the doubles. David Dunn took WCC’s point. Eathorpe D beat Ashorne A 7-3 thanks mainly to Will Apted’s treble. He was given good support by James Keay (2) and Callum Pickering (1) and Apted and Keay took the doubles 9 in the 5th. Steve Bolton, Chris Bowles and Roger Kelley all won once for Ashorne.