Table-tennis Report

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Warwickshire County Veterans (40+) team just missed out on the title in Division 2A of the County Championships after an exciting second weekend of competition at Wellingborough. Tying with Cheshire 2 and Staffordshire at the end of the first weekend, Spa’s Simon Griew and Mark Jackson were joined by Birmingham’s Michael Browne and Dawn Sagoo to inflict comfortable wins over Leicester 2 and Surrey 2. On the Sunday they ended Cheshire 2’s interest, winning 7-3 with a particularly noteworthy win for Jackson against Mal McEvoy but had to settle for runners-up spot following a hard fought draw with Norfolk . Warwickshire took both of the Mixed doubles, the Men’s doubles and Sagoo and Griew won singles but could not clinch victory, handing the title to Staffs.

Warwickshire Juniors also competed at Wellingborough in Division 1A of the County Junior League. The team, which comprised Spa’s Lee Dorning and Olivia Fletcher, Rugby’s Jesse Kendrick-Hill and Birmingham’s Sam Henderson and Lisa Rinnhofer began the second weekend of competition needing 3 points to avoid relegation. In the first match they faced nearest rivals South Yorkshire and with the match score at 4-4 Fletcher disposed of Roseanne Hurst leaving County debutant Dorning to face Bradley Wood. Trailing 1-2 in games, Dorning showed incredible determination to triumph 19-17 and 12-10 to take his second victory of the match and secure his team 2 points. The youngsters then lost 4-6 to Cheshire, Fletcher, Henderson, Kendrick- Hill and Rinnhofer all victors. Next up were title favourites Lancashire but wins for Dorning, Fletcher and Henderson put the Bears 3-0 up and then a further Henderson win gave his team a 4-2 lead. All looked lost as Warwickshire trailed 4-5 but another tenacious performance from Lee Dorning over Alex Storey clinched a point and safety. The final match was of little consequence with the youngsters going down 4-6 to Staffordshire, Kendrick-Hill 2, Dorning and Henderson 1 apiece.

Lillington Free Church’s top two juniors, Timmy Cooper and Lee Dorning, are on loan to Market Rasen in Division 3A of the Britsh Junior League. The team finished 3rd overall with Cooper and Dorning the top two players in the squad of 4, recording 67% and 50% respectively.

 Free Church sent 5 players to Cirencester for their 1-star tournament debuts and all can be very pleased with their performances. Forty players entered the Under 13 Boys and Robbie Fitchford and Jack Green both won their groups in Round 1. Fitchford finished second in his Round 2 group, losing out to Mithun Padmanabhan of Wales. In his Final group he again finished second to claim a highly creditable 5th overall.

Green meanwhile won his Round 2 group to qualify for the Final group of 3. He lost to England number 29 Reece Chamdal of Oxford who took the title but secured the runners-up trophy by overcoming Padmanabhan.

In the Girls’ under 13 event under 12s Ciara Hancox and Emily Beasley finished 7th and 8th and Milly Green , still U11, 10th with performances which augur well for the future.

Colebridge A strolled to a 10-0 whitewash over St Georges A in Division 1 with Kate Hughes, Kenny Lindsey and Amann Ubhi on fire. Free Church A managed a draw with Wellesbourne thanks to Timmy Cooper’s treble and a brace from Lee Dorning. Alan Cotton (2), John Price (1), Gary Stewart (1) and a Cotton/Stewart doubles win ensured parity.

Snitterfield A enjoyed a great night in Division 2 when trouncing Flavels 9-1. Tim Fell and Rob Poole posted hat-tricks and Stuart Ayres a double. Flavels fell by the same score against Enigmas with Paul Rowan and Dong Wei maximum men and Steve Proctor adding two. Young Sam Henderson is enjoying life in the second tier and led Colebridge B to a 7-3 win over Phoenix O with an outstanding treble. He also took the doubles with Michael Credland, who won twice with John Chandler chipping in with one. Paul Calloway was Phoenix’s star with two. Free Church C were delighted with their visit to Eathorpe A, coming home with 9 points. Scott Delday and Sam Wiggins were in imperious form and reserve Harry Purewal had two excellent wins, just losing out to Pete Titmas.

Division 3 leaders Free Church D wobbled against Nomads C edging a 6-4 thriller. Chris Blowey was a steadying church influence with three and Cherry Matthews 2 and Dudley Turner 1 saw them home but Christian McMorran 2 Steve Kurle one and a doubles success made it close. Millennium chase FC D and hammered Free Church F 8-2. Christian Ward and Rob Warnes were unbeaten in singles and doubles and Richard Pickering notched one. Sarah Barkowski and Kim Wong replied. A rare appearance from Jon Williams steered Whitnash A to a 6-4 win over Nomads B as he recorded a triple plus the doubles with Greg Swan, who claimed a brace. Ian Stevens was Nomads best with 2.

Eathorpe B stay in second place in Division 4 and crushed WCC D 9-1. Sophie Cooper and Michael Rossington won 7 of the points and Dave Hawker won twice, finding Carl Morgan too good.

Rugby F beat Free Church N 4-1 in Division A with Sam Cafaero winning two and the doubles with Sam Basford who won one. Jay Virdi avoided the whitewash. Keith Knott landed a twosome and the doubles with son Jeremy who won once as Free Church M overcame St Georges F 4-1. Alex Wright replied.

In Division C Eathorpe G beat Norton Lindsey 4-1 with Max Turvey unbeaten. Cory Hancock helped him to the doubles and won a single. Andrew Mountney responded. Eathorpe F defeated their H team 4-1 with John Gymer and Jamie Sayer taking all the singles.

In Division D there was a first win of the season for FC U’s exciting prospect Daniel Gunthorpe, who also helped Brody Speller to the doubles. U went down 2-3 to FC R, however, as Hugh Doody won 2 and Harry Hayes one.