**League Report**

**Courier, 17th February, 2017**

**County Council B grabbed the headlines in Division 1 contesting a superb draw with title challenging Colebridge. Kate Hughes won her three for the Birmingham side and Anthony Ellis and Mike Rinnhofer chipped in with singles but braces from Simon Griew and Murray Stevenson, who also teamed for the doubles, guaranteed parity. This result enabled Free Church A to go top, after overcoming their B side 9-1. Lee Dorning and Sam Weaving secured hat-tricks and the doubles and Sam Wiggins won two, losing to Charlotte Spencer in 5. Wellesbourne defeated Phoenix 6-4 in a match where no player kept a perfect record. Alan Cotton and Gary Stewart won two apiece and the doubles, with John Price contributing one for the villagers. Callum Martin (2), Paul Calloway (1) and Mark Rose (1) responded.**

**In Division 2 two 7-3 wins put Free Church E in 4th position. Bottom side Eathorpe A were disposed of when Dave Ramsey claimed a treble, Anthony Smith two and Cherry Matthews one plus a Ramsey/Smith doubles win. Pete Titmas notched two for Eathorpe with Bernard Reman adding one. E then faced their F side with Ramsey again unbeaten in singles and doubles with Mark Bolshaw who won two. Matthews took the other point with F ‘s Nikit Sajiv enjoying two good wins and Phil Blowey taking one. Free Church C sit top after an emphatic 8-2 success when hosting Enigmas. Michael Ho was the star with a maximum , Tom Harris and Kit Turner both won twice and combined for the doubles. Bobby Lee and Steve Proctor salvaged the visitors’ points. Millennium A beat Rugby B 7-3, Christian Ward’s triple including the prize scalp of Danny Orr. Jack Garner won twice, as well as taking the doubles with Ward, and Rob Warnes added one. Orr (2) and Christine Scaysbrook (1) scored for Rugby. Rugby C accounted for St Georges D 7-3, all 7 points coming from Hugh Crosfield and Ben Holvey. Andy Caine, Tracey Fletcher and Richard Grover each won a single for Georges.**

**Division 3 leaders County Council D opened up a 15 point gap when tasting victory (7-3) against Whitnash B. Mark Freeman won his three and guided Cliff Jackson (2) to the doubles. Tony Ford clinched the other point. Dennis Woodhead (2) and Greg Swan (1) replied. Free Church G put a little space between themselves and relegation when edging rivals Rugby D 6-4. Tom Fletcher and Ged Kuprys each won twice with Eve Briscoe winning once and partnering Fletcher to the doubles. Oliver and Steve Fowler both won two to keep it close. Rugby D then fell 7-3 to their E team. Oliver and Steve won singles and Oliver joined brother Harvey for the doubles but E were too strong and trebles from Freddy Jones and Stuart Mills plus a Joe Mills single, secured the win. County Council C sit second and defeated Free Church G 7-3, though none could beat Kuprys. Doug Lowe, Steve Poole and Ian Stevens all nailed two and Lowe/Stevens took the doubles. Nomads C continued their fine run with a 7-3 win over Millennium B. Les Hoggins and Kim Wong were unbeaten in singles and doubles. Bob Clarke, Lewis Cox and Richard Pickering picked up singles for the Banbury side.**

**The surprise package in Division 4 are the young Free Church L side who moved into second spot following a resounding 8-2 win over fellow challengers Eathorpe C. Eduardo Bolanos and Ben Hall took maximums and the doubles and Eleanor Fletcher took a point. Jamie Sayer and Norbu Sunang-Joret scored for Eathorpe. L followed this up with a tremendous 8-2 win over Free Church J whom they pushed into third place. Bolanos and Hall again posted maximums, Fletcher added a single and joined Hall for the doubles. It was left to Janice Rowan and Mike Weaving to gain some consolation. Free Church I took advantage to go top after completing a narrow 6-4 win over Eathorpe D. Chris Jones led the way with a treble, Dan Shaw won twice and Pete Rourke once. Sophie Cooper (2), Paul Deavall (1) and the doubles from Cooper and Shaun Martin kept matters tight.**

**Newly promoted Free Church P have found their feet in the A division and swept aside Flavels B 4-1. Josh Yarrow won his two and the doubles with Milly Green who won once. Mick Bennett prevented the whitewash.**

**In Division B Ashorne A are early front runners and they edged Free Church Q 3-2 in their latest outing. Steve Handsley was unbeaten in singles and doubles with Tony Philpott but Marc Briscoe and Findlay Douglas took the match to the wire.**

**Ashorne C are similarly enjoying life in Division D and had a 4-1 win against Rugby K. Steve Bolton won his singles, Barry Bayliss chipped in with one and the pair took the doubles. George Marshall bagged Rugby’s point. Rugby J fared better winning 3-2 at home to Norton Lindsey B. Alex Bowe scored twice and partnered Oliver Wilson to the doubles with Guy Harrison and John Walker replying.**

 **In Division E Eathorpe G recorded a 3-2 victory at FISSC B with James Rome winning twice and Ben James once, losing to Martin Hamer. Hamer joined Sam Taylor to grab the doubles.**

**Free Church U nudged their X side to a defeat with a 3-2 success courtesy of Chris Hearn (2) and David Knott (1). Alex O’Driscoll won one for X and paired with Jack Knowles to take the doubles in this Division F encounter. Free Church W edged leaders Eathorpe I 3-2 in a match worthy of a higher level. Joe Shrimpton was the difference winning both singles and partnering an impressive Erin Darwen in the doubles. Joshua Cope and Christian Roberts won a single apiece and showed their potential. The biggest winners in this Division were Free Church V who saw off Rugby L 4-1. Owain Jones won two, Dan Stone one and the pair combined for the doubles. George Spraget notched the consolation.**