**Table-Tennis**

**League Report**

**Courier, 6th January 2017**

Heading into the New Year, Colebridge A sit top of Division 1 after an 8-2 victory over Phoenix. Kate Hughes starred with a hat-trick , aided by Chris Burgess and Anthony Ellis who both won twice and supplied a winning doubles. Callum Martin bagged two for the Coventry visitors. Rugby A lurk just three points behind but with a game in hand and whitewashed St Georges A, Ryan Lines, Adrian Pilgrim and Ryan Stockham amassing the points. St Georges B have been trying to close the gap on the top three in recent weeks but their cause was not helped when facing Wellesbourne to whom they conceded three points by fielding only two players. However, Mark Jackson and Ron Vose took the other 7 on offer. County Council A are in the bottom two but closing the gap on those around them. Chris Brewer’s treble plus a single from Pat McCabe made for a tight finish against their B side but their opponents emerged with the vital sixth point following braces from Martin Hunter and Murray Stevenson, a single from Nilton Green and a comfortable Green/Stevenson doubles win. A tremendous triple from Division 1 debutant Ricardo Bolanos steered Free Church B to a 7-3 success over bottom side Nomads A. Jack Green and Harry Purewal added twos with Simon Nolan notching two wins in reply plus the doubles with Paul Rowan.

Free Church D lead Division 2 and edged Rugby B 6-4, despite Danny Orr’s treble. Christine Scaysbrook added one but Church secured the win as Chris Blowey and Livvy Fletcher posted two apiece plus the doubles and Lewis Singleton provided a single. Free Church F are second and beat Eathorpe A 7-3 after maximums from James Robertson and Nikit Sajiv. Adam Pulman enjoyed a single and it was left to Bin-Khoi Nguyen and Bernard Reman to nail singles and Nguyen to pair with Marius Morariu for the doubles. A similar scoreline met Eathorpe when they faced Rugby C for whom Hugh Crosfield and Ben Holvey were hat-trick heroes. Jack Evans added one. Morariu and Nguyen replied with singles and this time Nguyen joined Reman for a doubles win. Whitnash A are the only non Free Church team in the top five but they must be favourites to secure the title given their games in hand. This week they saw off the challenge of Free Church C 8-2 with Kevin Ariss and Mark Woolerton claiming 7 of the points and Paul Riman one. Jeff Harris and Michael Ho avoided the whitewash. Free Church E are 4th and emerged as 7-3 victors over St Georges D. Mark Bolshaw and Anthony Smith won their singles and Cherry Matthews chipped in with one. Andy Caine and Richard Grover had single wins in reply and Grover partnered Roy Joiner for a doubles win.

County Council C closed the gap on leaders WCC D to one point after trouncing bottom side Eathorpe B 10-0 in Division 3. Derek Harwood, Doug Lowe and Steve Poole were in no mood to concede. Struggling Rugby D did their cause the world of good with a 6-4 win over Nomads C. Steve Fowler won his three; sons Harvey and Oliver added singles and took the crucial doubles. Kim Wong (2), Les Hoggins (1) and Richard Miles (1) responded. Rugby E are third but were surprisingly beaten at Free Church H for whom Ian Beasley and Ciara Hancox nailed trebles. Emily Beasley had one win and took the doubles with Hancox. Jack Kuomi and Stuart Mills scored for the visitors. Rugby F are 5th but very much in touch with the leaders and beat Free Church G 7-3. Jack Evans and Bradley Matthews won their threes and reserve Daniel Burgess recorded one. Milly Bradshaw and Tom Fletcher won singles for Church and Fletcher joined Eve Briscoe to take the doubles. 4th placed Millennium B overcame Rugby D 7-3. Lewis Cox was unbeaten and Colin Astbury and Bob Clarke won two each. Oliver and Steve Fowler replied with singles and Harvey joined Oliver to grab the doubles. Flavels A came away from Eathorpe B with 8 points, Mick Bennett (3), Steve Lyons (3), Sam Bradley (1) Bennett/Lyons the doubles. Jim Levack and Charlie Wragg responded.

In Division 4 leaders Free Church I were held to a draw at 4th placed Eathorpe C. Norbu Sunang-Joret won his three and the doubles with Jamie Sayer who won once. Braces from Katie Singleton and Dan Shaw and a single from Pete Rourke guaranteed the stalemate. Eathorpe C then overcame Free Church K 6-4 when Sunang-Joret again took a maximum and the doubles with Sayer. Sayer won two but lost to Milly Green (2). Richard Hancox and Richard Pittaway added singles. Free Church J are second and squeezed past Rugby G 6-4. Dan Burgess claimed a triple for Rugby, ending the 100% record of Janice Rowan in the process, and Grace Newman and Lesley Summers gained a doubles win. Catherine McAuley, Rowan and Mike Weaving each won two singles to get Church home. Rugby G then accounted for third placed Free Church L 6-4 but Burgess relinquished his perfect average with defeat at the hands of Eduardo Bolanos who won his three and the doubles with Eleanor Fletcher. Burgess (2), Sarah James (2) and Summers(2) claimed the win.

 **Burton-Uxbridge Tournament**

**December 2016**

Six youngsters from Lillington Free Church table-tennis club travelled to Burton-on-Trent after Christmas to play in a 2-star tournament and all enjoyed pleasing performances.

Nikit Sajiv enhanced his burgeoning reputation by reaching the Final of the Under 13 Boys’ singles. In his group he defeated Charlie Beadle and Luke Hodgson, both of Yorkshire, and Joseph Cooper. His club-mate, Eduardo Bolanos, also qualified for the knock-outs by finishing second in his group, failing to finish top after a 9-11 in the 5th loss to England number 22 Lewis Ellams of South Yorkshire but with an excellent win over Lennon Maughan. This set-up a quarter-final clash between the pair with Sajiv winning 3-0. England number 15 Che Goulbourne of Yorkshire was swept aside in the semis but Sajiv, now ranked at number 7, could not better Charlie Turner (6) and settled for the runners-up trophy whilst Bolanos will be delighted with his best tournament performance so far.

Ciara Hancox (53) finished second in her Cadets Girls group with wins over Rebecca Savage of Cumbria, Lucy Vernon of Derbyshire, ranked 40 in England, and Alice Antoszkiewicz and a -9,-6,-7 loss to Hannah Ward of Notts who is England’s number 10. In the quarter-final she lost to Helena Dicken (25) from Derby. In another group, club-mate Emily Beasley (63) also qualified despite strong opposition. She lost 7-11 in the 5th against England number 39 Mukmanee Warburton of Yorkshire but had an outstanding win over Katie Holt of Hampshire , ranked 13, and beat Rebecca Rigg of Cumbria (57). In the quarters defeat came at the hands of Lara Whitton of Wales.

Neither girl qualified from their Junior groups but both enjoyed excellent runs in the Junior Consolation. In their respective semi-finals they faced the Staffordshire sisters, Alice and Joannna Antoszkiewicz, Beasley losing to Joanna but Hancox beating Alice 11-8 in the 5th. In the Final Hancox upped her game to defeat Joanna three straight.

Ricardo Bolanos finished as runner-up in his Cadets group, losing to Goulbourne in 5 but overcoming Derby’s Sam Cooper and Ben McHoul, both in 4. He exited in the quarter-final at the hands of England number 1 Jamie Liu from Berkshire.

 Ricardo Bolanos also qualified in the Juniors with wins over Matthew Rigg of Cumbria, Jeremy Hamshaw-Thomas and Rowan Jones, only to face Liu for a second time who again ended his run.

Milan Sajiv also qualified from his Junior group but lost in the quarters to Max Stevens of Notts.