

# LONDON BANKS AND CIVIL SERVICE TABLE TENNIS LEAGUE BULLETIN 6

AS AT 11 NOVEMBER 2018

	<b>P</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>P</b>
CASTAWAYS	6	4	2	49	11	18	67
MORPETH	5	4	1	33	17	15	48
NAT WEST	5	2	1	30	20	15	45
EMPLOYMENT	5	3	0	27	23	15	42
TREASURY A	4	2	1	28	12	12	40
PRO	4	3	0	27	13	12	39
COMETS	5	2	1	24	26	15	39
INSURANCE	5	1	1	18	32	15	33
SPARTA	4	1	0	14	26	12	26
DIT	5	0	1	7	43	15	22
BTB	4	0	0	3	37	12	15

Bonus points shown in penultimate column. Ultimate column shows total points from sets won and bonuses

## THINGS TO NOTE

- ✓ Individual match scores can be found on the website  
[https://www.tabletennis365.com/londonbanksandcivilservice/Fixtures/Season\\_2018-2019/Division\\_One](https://www.tabletennis365.com/londonbanksandcivilservice/Fixtures/Season_2018-2019/Division_One)

## COMMENTARY

### Week 6

Insurance started the season with a win but since then have struggled to pick up points. This week their match with Employment was played out of order. Ian Cranstone played three off and lost to both Baylis and Hodges disappointingly, without picking up an end. His set against Kevin Hawkes was more of a battle where Ian quickly found himself two ends down but managed to win the next two ends. Perhaps that gave him the momentum as he pulled ahead to win the decider 11-7. Employment advanced the score to 4-1 with Baylis beating Albert Francis and Lew Hodges beating Jon Velinor. Again, these were three-straight sets. Things looked better for Insurance as Francis took the first two ends off Lew Hodges but Lew fought back, taking the next two ends. The stage was set for a cracking final end and so it was, culminating at 10-10, 11-11, and 12-12 before Lew took the next two points to win the set 14-12. Good contest! Bad luck for Kevin Hawkes in his final set as he picks up an injury and has to concede to Velinor. With Employment 6-3 up I'm not sure anyone would have ventured money on Insurance winning the doubles but an inspirational team effort from the Insurance pair captured the set in four ends. 6-4 to Employment – probably a fair result for both sides. Employment have now put together a nice run of three victories on the trot while Insurance have won none of their last four matches. Nat West and Morpeth both fielded strong teams for their clash this week and a high-class match was in prospect. Alex Luk won the first set for Morpeth, showing his earlier maximum against Castaways was no fluke, with a three straight defeat of Chris Herbert. In set two, Chris Penrose was too strong for Rob Chambers and the match score was levelled at 1-1. Looking back, I think the next set was a game changer. Last season Samson Bekele lost to Tony Catt in four ends, which gives Tony a slight edge in this encounter. But this time, Samson won three straight but the scores - 11-9, 13-11, 13-11 – show how close it was. Next set, Alex Luk showed his class by taking out Chris Penrose in four ends. That was followed by Herbert versus Bekele and déjà vu as Chris had won their last encounter. Chris edges in front by two ends to one but Samson takes the fourth by the narrowest of margins 11-9. The fifth could have gone either way but this was to prove to be Samson's night as romped home 11-5 in the fifth. If this was Samson's night, it certainly wasn't Rob Chambers' as he lost in five ends to both Herbert and Catt. Among all this drama Alex Luk was untroubled beating Penrose and Catt in four ends. Samson rounded off a perfect night with a three straight(!) win over Chris Penrose. Nat West won a consolation doubles to make the match score 4-6. The official Player of the Match award went to Alex Luk but my vote was for Samson Bekele! What a good match! In contrast to their rivals, Castaways had a more comfortable fixture this week, hosting Sparta. 10-0 was Castaways' objective and 10-0 was what they achieved. Norman Grant played his first match for Castaways this season and won all three but rode his luck in five-end wins over Mandy John and Peter Tokely. The rest was one-

way traffic with LeMilliere not dropping an end and Pete Harris dropping just one end. Castaways extend their lead at the top of the table but Treasury have games in hand. A happier night for BTB, taking two sets off PRO. Flavinda Xavier was their star, beating George Buck three straight, losing in four to Ronnie Turner and giving John Crawford a real fright before losing 11-5 in the fifth. BTB's other success was a win for Rishi Sinarain over Buck in four hard fought ends. It's strange that last season PRO had a really hard start to the half and things got easier as the half progressed, whereas this season that's been reversed and all their hard matches are still in front of them. This has been a stellar week for good matches and our last fixture of the week continues in that vein – it's Treasury versus the spoilers of the Division, Comets. Winston Wong opens with a good win over Steve Fagan. Parity is restored as Steve Codrington digs deep to edge past Giovanni Giuffrida in five. That is followed by Ian Francis against Treasury's star Tony Egan. All of a sudden, Tony's got a game on his hands as Ian levels the set at two ends all. The final end was close but Tony managed to pull away to win it 11-7. A closer result than the formbook suggests. That was the start of a challenging night for Tony and, although he duly won all three, both Fagan and Codrington put up strong resistance. The winner of this match turned on the outcome of two sets. First, Steve Codrington excelled himself in beating Wong over four ends in a candidate for "best win of the season". Then, Ian Francis did the same and Comets had pinched the result 6-4, denting Treasury's title hopes. A commendable team effort from Comet!

Head and shoulders above all fixtures next week is Treasury against Nat West. If both clubs field their strongest teams my money's on Nat West (but I was wrong about this week's Nat West v. Morpeth fixture). Employment will be hoping to pinch some sets off Morpeth. Sparta got close to PRO in the first half last season and then got hammered in the return – hard to bet against a PRO win next week. BTB have an uphill battle against Comets while Insurance will hope to return to winning ways as they host DIT.

**RICHARD CAMPBELL**  
**DIVISIONAL SECRETARY**

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**AVERAGES (Qualification: ≥5 sets played)**

<b>Player</b>	<b>Team</b>	<b>Sets Won</b>	<b>Sets Played</b>	<b>Average (%)</b>
Bekele	MORPETH	9	9	100.0
Egan	TREASURY A	6	6	100.0
Hodges	EMPLOYMENT	6	6	100.0
Luk	MORPETH	6	6	100.0
LeMilliere	CASTAWAYS	16	18	88.9
Harris	CASTAWAYS	8	9	88.9
Turner	PRO	8	9	88.9
Jermyn	EMPLOYMENT	5	6	83.3
McKee	CASTAWAYS	7	9	77.8
McKee	EMPLOYMENT	7	9	77.8
Penrose	NAT WEST	7	9	77.8
Persaud	PRO	7	9	77.8
Herbert	NAT WEST	9	12	75.0
Wong	TREASURY A	8	12	66.7
Brown	MORPETH	6	9	66.7
Crawford	PRO	6	9	66.7
Evans	SPARTA	6	9	66.7
Robinson	TREASURY A	6	9	66.7
Wroe	CASTAWAYS	6	9	66.7
Codrington	COMETS	9	15	60.0
Baylis	EMPLOYMENT	7	12	58.3
Francis	COMETS	7	12	58.3
Buchanan	PRO	3	6	50.0

Catt	NAT WEST	3	6	50.0
Cranstone	INSURANCE	7	15	46.7
Jones	NAT WEST	4	9	44.4
Chambers	MORPETH	5	12	41.7
Francis	INSURANCE	6	15	40.0
Fagan	COMETS	3	9	33.3
Tokely	SPARTA	3	9	33.3
Giuffrida	TREASURY A	2	6	33.3
Velinor	INSURANCE	3	15	20.0
Sinarain	BTB	2	12	16.7
John	SPARTA	1	6	16.7
Miller	DIT	1	9	11.1
Waterhouse	BTB	1	9	11.1
Gazheli	DIT	1	11	9.1
Mehta	DIT	1	11	9.1