

LONDON BANKS AND CIVIL SERVICE TABLE TENNIS LEAGUE

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – Friday 1st June 2018.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

1. Divisional Structure and Conduct

1.1. For the 2017-2018 season, the league had twenty three teams with eleven in the First Division and twelve in the Second Division. The small increase was due to Insurance Offices and Natwest entering second teams, while the Credex team surprisingly withdrew after completing the League and Cup double. Many thanks are due to Philip Beerjeraz for managing the Credex team over the past twenty plus seasons.

1.2. The re-arrangement of the playing area at the Abbey Centre with four teams playing each evening was introduced. Two of the additional 'slots' were used by Natwest A and the new Insurance second team.

The four remaining 'slots' were used by teams from the Central league (Exiles, Karma x 2 and Lambeth). This required significant effort, including collaboration with the Central League Secretary, to create a fixture schedule fulfilling all teams requirements. It also required an adjustment to our historic playing schedule - removal of free mid season nights - to align it with that of the Central League. This will be re-visited before the start of next season.

1.3. The Handbook and fixture grids were issued to all Club representatives by email before the season started as well as being available on the website.

1.4. By and large the season ran smoothly with only the usual hiccups caused by Tube strikes, inclement weather and a recurrence of the lift failure at the Abbey Centre.
The season was extended for an additional two weeks. All matches were finally completed.

1.5. As usual, the First division had the usual wide variety of talents on display and with the Castaways/Credex duopoly broken, it initially seemed that last seasons' runners up were shoo-ins for the title.

As in life, it was never going to be that straight forward. Step forward, Treasury A, strengthened by some Credex refugees, to take up the challenge and successfully lift the title. Overall, the First division seemed more competitive throughout and while the historical different range of playing abilities at the top and bottom continue, it seemed less extreme than in previous seasons.

1.6. The Second division was again more competitive throughout. By the second half of the season, Beauty & the Beasts were clear favourites for (re)promotion. The second promotion spot was claimed by DIT.

New boys - NatWest B - had a successful start to their league career finishing in mid table position.

- 1.7. Once again thanks for playing venues are due to Morpeth School, the Abbey Centre and to DEFRA at Nobel House, who allowed their venue to be used by 2 other Clubs.

2. League Website

Gerry Martin continues to do a fine job running the TT365 League website which can be accessed at <https://www.tabletennis365.com/LondonBanksAndCivilService/>
Secretaries are asked to continuing sending copies of match results to Gerry (as well as the appropriate Divisional Secretary), so that the website details are updated promptly. The present arrangement currently works well and will continue next year.

3. Social Evening

The Social Evening followed the AGM in the Civil Service Club Bar and was the usual success.

4. Cup Competition

There was no Cup Competition this year.

5. Final Divisional Tables

Division One

1	Treasury A	20	17	1	2	170	30	60	230
2	Castaways	20	16	2	2	154	46	57	211
3	Nat West	20	14	3	3	132	68	60	192
4	JOOLA Morpeth A	20	14	3	3	123	77	60	183
5	Employment	20	9	3	8	99	101	60	159
6	PRO	20	8	2	10	97	103	60	157
7	NSY Comets A	20	8	1	11	88	111	61	149
8	Sparta	20	5	1	14	72	128	60	132
9	Insurance A	20	5	2	13	68	132	60	128
10	HMRC - Outcasts	20	3	1	16	58	142	60	118
11	Treasury B	20	1	1	18	38	162	60	98

Division Two

1	Beauty and the Beasts	22	19	0	3	164	56	66	230
2	DIT	22	16	3	3	146	74	66	212
3	NordWestB	22	12	7	3	131	89	68	197
4	Old Sedcopians	22	12	4	6	129	91	66	195
5	Hoares	22	9	7	6	120	100	63	183
6	JOOLA Morpeth B	22	9	6	7	110	110	63	173
7	Insurance B	22	10	5	7	111	109	57	168
8	NatWest B	22	4	7	11	91	126	66	157
9	Exlibris	22	6	4	12	98	122	58	155
10	NordWest A	22	3	3	16	75	145	66	141
11	NSY Comets B	22	2	3	17	74	146	66	140
12	DNS	22	4	3	15	68	152	66	134

6. Divisional and Merit Awards.

6.1. Divisional Winners and Runners-up and Merit Award winners (these are awarded not just on the basis of averages but take into account overall performance including number of matches played) are;

<u>Division One</u>	Winners	Treasury A	P20 W17 D1	Pts 230
	Runners-up	Chadwick Castaways	P20 W16 D2	Pts 211
Merit Award	To be confirmed ?????		P?? W??	??%

<u>Division Two</u>	Winners	Beauty & the Beasts	P22 W19 D0	Pts 230
	Runners-up	DIT	P22 W16 D3	Pts 212
Merit Award	Andrew Muller	NatWest B	P36 W34	94.4%

7. Acknowledgements.

It is again appropriate to acknowledge the sterling efforts of those without whom the League could not run. This of course includes all the Club Secretaries, the Divisional Secretaries, Richard Campbell and Colin Walkinshaw, the Assistant Secretary and Treasurer, Barry Pollentine and especially to the immense efforts of our Chairman Neil le Milliere.

Many thanks once again to all of you!

8. The future

The increased use of the Abbey Centre and the postponement of the loss of the DEFRA venue have reduced, at least temporarily, the pressure on venues, but there is still little, if any, room for new teams or other expansion of our activities.

Efforts continue to be made to attract new players. Next season, there will be a couple of teams looking for additional players, if anyone knows of any possible candidates, please contact the Chairman or Secretary.

National Table Tennis Day will be on Wednesday July 18th 2018. An open day at the Abbey Centre may be organised if there is sufficient interest. It will be run on similar lines to the 2016 event. Anyone interested in assisting should contact the Chairman and/or the Secretary.

Gerry Martin

League Secretary

20th May 2018