

# LONDON BANKS AND CIVIL SERVICE TABLE TENNIS LEAGUE BULLETIN 15

AS AT 4 FEBRUARY 2018

	<b>P</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>P</b>
TREASURY A	14	11	1	114	26	42	156
CASTAWAYS	14	12	1	112	28	42	154
NAT WEST	14	10	2	94	46	42	136
MORPETH	14	9	2	83	57	42	125
EMPLOYMENT	14	5	3	62	78	42	104
PRO	13	4	2	60	70	39	99
SPARTA	13	4	1	52	78	39	91
INSURANCE	14	4	1	47	93	42	89
COMETS	12	4	1	49	71	36	85
OUTCASTS	13	3	1	41	89	39	80
TREASURY B	13	0	1	26	104	39	65

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\\_2017-2018/Division\\_One](https://www.tabletennis365.com/LondonBanksAndCivilService/Fixtures/Season_2017-2018/Division_One)

## COMMENTARY

### Week 18

Begins with a key win for Sparta in the battle to avoid relegation. They beat fellow strugglers Insurance 8-2 and thereby eased their relegation worries a bit. This was a good team effort from Sparta, spearheaded by Dave Evans who won all three, dropping one end all night. That's Dave's third maximum in Sparta's last four games. He was backed up by two each from Tokely and Hattrill. For Insurance, it was a disappointing and inconsistent night. The usually dependable Ian Cranstone lost all three while Albert Frances beat Tokely and Jon Velinor beat Hattrill. Closest sets of the night were Tokely's defeat of Cranstone 11-7 in the fifth and Velinor's win over Hattrill 11-8 in the fifth. After last week's shock defeat, Nat West return to winning form with a runaway 10-0 victory over Outcasts. Six of the singles sets ended three straight. Chris Herbert looked a class above with three three-straight wins. We haven't seem much of Les Samuels this season but he marked his return to the team with a maximum, though he was pushed very hard by Andrew Macalister and had to concentrate in the fifth end which he won 11-3. Gareth Jones was Nat West's third player and he too completed a hat trick, which included a narrow three straight defeat of Macalister by scores of 13-11, 12-10, 12-10! Morpeth made light work of Treasury B winning 9-1. Bekele was untroubled and ran off nine straight ends for the perfect maximum. Duncan Brown had a more challenging night, beating David Shore in a long set that he could have easily lost in three but then coming back to take the fourth and fifth ends with ease. It was a similar pattern against John Colgan with Duncan starting slow but then accelerating away to win in four. He duly completed his maximum with a three-straight win over Okai. Terese Johansson had a great night beating John Colgan 11-9 in the fifth after 102 points and David Shore 11-6 in the fifth. Just as I was casting my vote for Terese as Player of the Match something odd happened and she found herself on the wrong end of a three-straight win by Jeremy Okai. Well done Jeremy! That's one of those results that makes you scratch your head in puzzlement. The night ended on a high spot with a seesaw doubles where Morpeth went two ends to one up, lost the fourth 11-8 and finally won the fifth 12-10. Couldn't have been closer. The doubles can sometimes be a bit of a non-event but we've had some really good doubles sets this season. Four five-enders in that match and Morpeth won all of them! Treasury A were looking for a whitewash against Employment but the match was by no means one sided. A big upset looked on the cards in the first set as Paul Baylis was two ends to one up on Winston Wong and in with a good chance of taking the set in the fourth. Winston won that end 11-8 and, in the fifth, Paul's chance suddenly evaporated as Winston took the final end 11-4. Fung versus Richard Oppenheim was also a tight contest but Perry just won out in the fourth

at 14-12. If Richard had taken that end I'm sure the final end would have been a real scrap. It was clearly going to be a "so near yet so far" night for Richard as he fought his way back from two ends down to Wong, levelled the set, only to get blown away 11-5 in the fifth. Yet there was consolation ahead. Richard took the first two ends against Laikram Persaud but heartbreakingly lost the next two ends to find himself playing another five-ender. This time things went Richard's way and he won the set 11-8. I think that's a great win as Laikram never gives anything away and is one of the hardest players to beat in this Division. A 9-1 result in favour of Treasury A but six of the ten sets went past the third end as Employment fought hard. The final match of the week and Castaways are hoping to catch up on Treasury A. That was always going to be difficult with Steve Fagan in the opposition but Castaways started brilliantly, running off the first five sets which included a surprising three-straight win for Keld Jaksland over Fagan! Steve then took his revenge out on Neil LeMilliere in set six, winning comfortably. The rest of the sets were uneventful and all went Castaways' way for a 9-1 victory. Special mention for Keld Jaksland who won all three, which seemed highly unlikely given his lack-lustre performance in last week's match. Looking at the scorecard, it's clear Treasury A were challenged far harder by Employment than Castaways were challenged by Comets.

So week 18's results leave the gap at the top unchanged. The relegation battle takes another twist as Sparta move up leaving Insurance far from safe. One-third of the season left with Comets and Outcasts under the greatest pressure to secure points. I suspect the relegation position is going to alter every week

In next week's fixtures, Sparta have a tough match against Nat West while Outcasts are likely to take sets off Employment (again, all will turn on team selection). Insurance will be looking for a big win against Treasury B. If history is anything to go by PRO will cause Castaways no trouble but, witness the first half result, it's by no means a foregone conclusion. Treasury A will need to be on top form not to lose sets against Comets but if, as rumoured Steve Fagan is not playing for Comets, 10-0 looks the likely outcome.

**RICHARD CAMPBELL  
DIVISIONAL SECRETARY**

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**AVERAGES (Qualification: ≥ 16 sets played)**

<b>Player</b>	<b>Team</b>	<b>Sets Won</b>	<b>Sets Played</b>	<b>Average (%)</b>
Harris	CASTAWAYS	25	27	92.6
Persaud	TREASURY A	27	31	87.1
Fung	TREASURY A	24	28	85.7
McKee	CASTAWAYS	18	21	85.7
Herbert	NAT WEST	22	27	81.5
Wong	TREASURY A	25	31	80.6
Catt	NAT WEST	19	24	79.2
Fagan	COMETS	27	35	77.1
LeMilliere	CASTAWAYS	30	41	73.2
Bekele	MORPETH	17	24	70.8
Evans	SPARTA	20	29	69.0
Oppenheim	EMPLOYMENT	14	21	66.7
Brown	MORPETH	13	20	65.0
Chambers	MORPETH	13	20	65.0
Blyuss	MORPETH	11	18	61.1
Crawford	PRO	17	29	58.6
Mak	EMPLOYMENT	14	25	56.0
Jameson	OUTCASTS	10	18	55.6
Turner	PRO	18	34	52.9
Baylis	EMPLOYMENT	15	29	51.7

Jones	NAT WEST	17	33	51.5
Hattrill	SPARTA	10	20	50.0
Francis	INSURANCE	16	41	39.0
Coull	OUTCASTS	7	18	38.9
Macalister	OUTCASTS	7	18	38.9
Shore	TREASURY B	12	32	37.5
Roullier	OUTCASTS	11	30	36.7
Tokely	SPARTA	12	33	36.4
Cranstone	INSURANCE	13	38	34.2
Codrington	COMETS	7	23	30.4
Velinor	INSURANCE	10	38	26.3
Buchanan	PRO	8	31	25.8
Colgan	TREASURY B	4	20	20.0
Gargrupe	COMETS	5	35	14.3
Gittens	TREASURY B	3	29	10.3
Okai	TREASURY B	2	24	8.3