



Kingfisher Table Tennis Club

KINGFISHER NEWS

Issue 58 Winter 2011



Advanced Premier Club



Reading League and Cup Winners and Maidenhead League Winners 2009/10

Editor's Comments

I'm feeling neglected.

Aaaaagh I hear you mutter.

Unfortunately you'll find only three genuine Captain's team reports for the Local Leagues in this issue - and that includes two from me! The rest are my own observations on where the teams are.

I'm not sure what went wrong this time. I sent out the e-mail but only got one reply. I don't expect to get 100% of team reports but for some reason (I put it down to too much Christmas turkey) my e-mail fell on stony ground. I know that some of the Captains were away but what happened to my "regulars"? I thought that perhaps my e-mails had been sent back un-delivered and lost in the ether of computer space but that side of it seemed to be OK.

So come on Captains! Cheer me up!

Chris Pusey,

Editor

BRITISH LEAGUE 2010-2011 Division 1 South and Midlands

by Colin Dyke, Team Manager

TWO GOOD WEEKENDS FOR KINGFISHER MAKE IT A CLOSE FIGHT

Since the last Newsletter there have been 6 matches played leaving Kingfisher 1 lying 4th but only 1 point behind the second place team.

The first weekend of second round matches played on 11/12th December started really badly but then got better and better. A poor loss was followed by an easy win and a couple of draws against the two teams who were top at the start of the weekend. The final match against top team OLOP resulted in us being the only team to take a point of them so far. And it could so easily have been more.

The third round of matches played on 16 January saw a comfortable 8-0 win against Cippenham II and so nearly a win against second placed Guernsey. Only a 14-12 defeat in the fifth game stopped us taking both points off the Channel Islanders. This enabled us to close the gap on joint second placed Mossford and Guernsey to only one point. Of the top three we only have Mossford left to play in the last round, so it's all to play for from herein.

We now look forward to the final weekend of four matches on 19/20th February 2011 when we hope that with one last big effort we can snatch that second place and earn ourselves a place in the play-offs for the Premier.

Full details of the matches played are shown on page 6.

NEW HEATING SYSTEM INSTALLED

An automated heating control system is now in place thanks to the efforts of Allen Pack. There is now no need to switch off heating when you leave thanks to an automated timer. The new system has three separate zones and allows the club plenty of flexibility in setting multiple daily on/off times. Each zone has a separate thermostat to keep the club at an acceptable temperature.

If you find the club is too cold please let Allen Pack know - e-mail: allen@thepacks.plus.com

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE by Colin Dyke

I have again to start with a sad note in advising that a Devon county team player, Phil Reeves, collapsed and died at our Club during a county match on 15th January. I knew Phil who was an extremely amiable person and a very good player. Our thoughts at this time are with his family and his team mates to whom it must have been a great shock. My thanks go to Allan and Sylvia Bruton, Andy Yon and other members present who did all they possibly could to help.

I hope you are continuing to have a good season and are enjoying your table tennis. The Club is still being very well used which is what we like to see. We have a contractor lined up for the new roof but finding a date to get started is proving more difficult than I thought. As soon as that is done we aim to get works to windows and a few other items carried out under the same grant. Allen Pack's team's in the meantime have made lots of progress on electrical upgrades and Allen has applied for further grants to carry out more refurbishment works. We hope to know shortly whether we have been accepted under stage 1 of the process but I do know that the ETТА Fund has been very much oversubscribed, so we have to keep our fingers crossed on that one. My thanks to Allen for all of his hard work.

I reported last time on your individual membership of the ETТА, advising that it shouldn't take too much longer. Unfortunately, the ETТА have run in to all sorts of problems with it but I have been advised that it should be sorted by the end of January and cards issued by Mid-February. At least they have put the system in place which was much wanted for a number of reasons. Let's hope it runs smoothly after ironing out all the hiccups in the first year.

We have shortly to finalise our decision regarding a new sponsorship contract and the committee are currently looking at this. It is good to see our British and National League teams turn out in smart team shirts and shorts giving good publicity to our Club. We have a certain surplus of this gear and once we have sorted out what we need to retain it will be made available to club members at very low prices.



Richard Andrews

Finally, I would like to congratulate Richard Andrews and Tom Maynard for their selection to the England squad for the English Open. This doesn't just happen and is a reward for the masses of hard work they have put in over the years. I wish them success in the tournament.



Tom Maynard

If you have any questions or ideas to make the Club a better place, I trust you won't hesitate to contact me either by email colindyke@waitrose.com or by phone 0118 9783770.

Y&T V-989E Robot

A new table tennis robot, model V-989E by Y&T is now available for use by club members who have been instructed on its setup and functions. Once the overview is completed you will be issued with the padlock code to access to unit. See the list below for initial members who can show you how to use the unit.

ROBOT RULES:

All members who use the robot should adhere to the following common sense rules:

1. Store and lock unit after use.
2. Sign out and sign in unit.
3. Be considerate of other players, don't setup or use adjacent to match play.
4. Pick up all the training balls.
5. Unless reserved in advance i.e. coaching use, restrict to 15 minutes playing session when other members would like to use unit.

Report any problems to a committee member or email allen@thepacks.plus.com.

MEMBERS WHO CAN ADVISE ON ROBOT USE:

Hari Gehlot
 Ramesh Gehlot
 Richard Fifield
 Allan Bruton
 Raphael Jack
 Andy Yon
 Allen Pack



ROGER'S RAMBLINGS : Hello again everyone!!



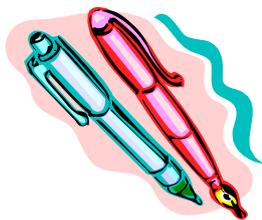
I REGRET to have to inform you (although you may not be too displeased by this announcement) that the *Ramblings* this time will be very short indeed. I have hardly played at all in the past four months and, of course, it is difficult to report on things if you're not there.

However, things are now changing! Just last week I retired from my post of British Rail Shunter and Wheel-tapper (as *El Supremo* would have it) and I have now joined the ranks of

Britain's idle poor. This does mean (in theory) that I shall have lots more free time to play *ping* – and I intend to do just that!. I shall stand around, looking wistful with head sorrowfully bowed, hoping that my team captains Allan and Ivor will take pity on me and select me more often.

If anyone else, from Division 6 to top county standard, fancies a knock at any time, please get in touch. I am raring to go! Only yesterday, I was jumping around in the front garden shadow-practising my backhand defence against a non-existent opponent, when Tina, the girl next door, looked over the fence. She shook her head sadly before disappearing indoors.

In an apparent contradiction of my first sentence above, I do not actually have to be present to report on unusual table tennis occurrences. If, in one of your matches, something amusing happens that you would like to share with the general membership, please let me know! I promise that I shall do my very best to embarrass everyone concerned.



While I shall do my best to continue supplying scrap pads to the Club, I should like to say "thank you" to whoever recently donated a fine supply of ball-point pens. It is inevitable that these things will eventually "walk", but they are so useful to many members. These particular pens carry an attractive *Racal* motif; I have one in my bag already.

You may be interested to know that Reading team captain Niall McGrane, in addition to being an IT expert and one of the finest table tennis players to come out of the Irish Republic, is also a top-notch SCUBA diver. He is somewhat appropriately PADI qualified. That is not a joke; PADI stands for "Professional Association of Diving Instructors". It's true, I tell you, it's true! Anyway, during the summer months, Niall often returns to the beautiful Galway Bay to instruct tourists in the art of disappearing beneath the waves.

One day last August, while Niall was donning his wet suit, one American tourist called him to one side and said: "Tell me, why do SCUBA divers always fall backwards into the water?"

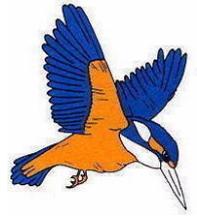
To which Niall replied, "If they fell forwards, they'd still be in the bloody boat."



Some of you will know that I live in Caversham Park (right next door to Sharon Mitchell) but what you will not know is that wifey Lin's parents live in Whitley. Now the journey from Caversham to Whitley involves a trip across the Shepherd's Hill Roundabout, quite close to the Bulmershe School.

One day last summer, Lin and I set off to visit her Mum and Dad. We travelled through Sonning and into Woodley and, because I had made this journey so many times, my mind was miles away. Suddenly, I discovered that we were parked right outside the Kingfisher Club. Lin looked at me and raised an eyebrow.

"What happens now?" she asked.

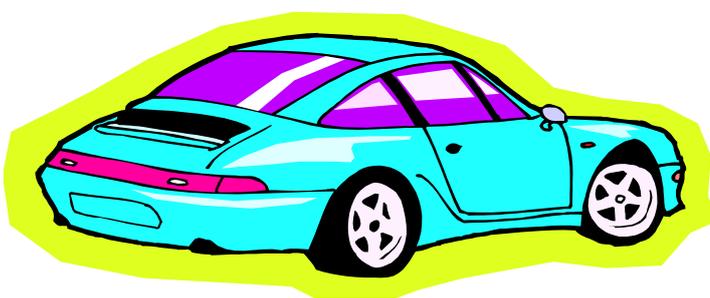


I have heard from various members that there have been two very unfortunate recent incidents in the table tennis world. One, so I am told, involved a fracas at a British League tournament in Hereford where one player actually struck another in anger. Now I am not going to mention any names (just in case my informant is wrong!) but it is very sad when what should be the friendliest of sports can come to this. No matter what the provocation, there is never any excuse for physical violence. The ETTA will have to sort out this particular incident and I feel sorry for the officers involved. That is not a job that I would relish!

The second incident involved a visiting County player collapsing at the Kingfisher Club and, again for fear of being wrong, I shan't mention any further details. However, it did bring it home to me that I personally would be absolutely hopeless if I were required to give any kind of emergency resuscitation or first aid. I am sure that I am not alone. Perhaps it would be sensible for all of us to at least learn the basics of these potential life-saving skills.

But on to less morbid things...

A few weeks ago, I was standing on Platform 4 at Reading Station, talking to the General Manager, when a furious woman came up to us. "Oops, another late train," I thought.



The woman angrily waved a piece of paper in our faces and demanded that we do something about something.

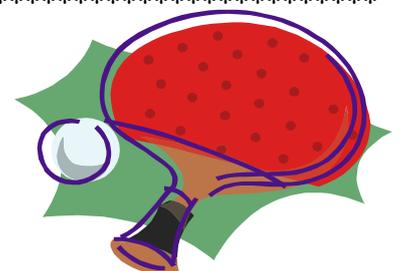
It transpired that the lady in question had parked her posh BMW Z4 sports car in the multi-storey car park but, because she had straddled a white line (thereby occupying two parking spaces), another

customer had thought fit to leave a little *billet-doux* under one of her windscreen wipers. Had I been the lady customer, far from complaining, I would have left the car park with a certain amount of embarrassment and as quickly as possible. The note read as follows:

"The Almighty gave you the means to buy this car; it's a pity He didn't give you the brains to park it properly."

Well, everyone, that's it from me for another four months.

Keep happy and here's to seeing you all at the Club before too long. And, due to my new-found status, I really do mean that last sentence!



Roger

BRITISH LEAGUE - Division 1 South and Midlands by Colin Dyke

Saturday – 11th December 2010

Kingfisher 3 Fusion II 5

With our team having travelled long distances in the morning they looked jaded in this first match. It was one we would have expected to win but when the crunch points came, we weren't able to put them away. Lloyd was just off the pace against Martin Smith losing a match 3-0 he might have won 3-0 later in the day. Daniel suffered a setback when looking to be cruising against Tom Hughes letting a 2-0 lead slip and losing at deuce in the fifth, after being 9-3 and 10-6 up! Aled was way below form in his two defeats, allowing Farhat Rasul back in to a match he led 1-0 and 10-6. Fusion, I think, were a bit surprised that they managed to squeak through.

Match Details

Lloyd Gregory lost to Martin Smith -9 -11 -13
 Daniel O'Connell beat John Dennison 6 10 9
 Aled Howell lost to Farhat Rasul 6 -11 -6 -6
 Dean Cundy lost to Tom Hughes 10 -2 -8 -7

Lloyd Gregory beat John Dennison 10 6 9
 Aled Howell lost to Martin Smith -9 -9 9 -5
 Daniel O'Connell lost to Tom Hughes 8 6 -4 -8 -10
 Dean Cundy beat Farhat Rasul 10 5 -7 9

Man of the match: Martin Smith

Mossford 4 Kingfisher 4

This was a great result against Mossford, who had been second at the start of play. In fact how we didn't win was amazing and mainly down to their No 2 player Ryan Owen who twice came back from the dead to beat both Lloyd and Aled. Dean picked up two good wins at No 4 and Aled and Daniel seemed to be getting their games together with a win apiece.

Match Details

Daniel O'Connell lost to Euan Liddle 9 -10 -2 -3
 Lloyd Gregory lost to Ryan Owen 8 6 -8 -11 -8
 Dean Cundy beat Matt Spiro -7 8 7 7
 Aled Howell beat Keith Lesser -10 5 10 -7 3

Lloyd Gregory lost to Euan Liddle -10 -13 -2
 Daniel O'Connell beat Matt Spiro 5 -8 14 6
 Aled Howell lost to Ryan Owen 9 5 -7 -7 -5
 Dean Cundy beat Keith Lesser 5 8 -4 12

Man of the match Ryan Owen

Sunday – 12th December 2010

Kingfisher 7 Ashford 1

The team were firing on all cylinders on the Sunday morning and Ashford were put to the sword. Koray Ozcan was their only player who troubled us and Dean had the misfortune to be on the end of his all round unorthodox play, albeit a very tight defeat. A great team performance.

Match Details

Lloyd Gregory beat John Robinson 8 7 8
 Daniel O'Connell beat Jason Tendler 8 6 5
 Aled Howell beat Chris Cox 5 5 5
 Dean Cundy lost to Koray Ozcan -9 2 -6 4 -7

Lloyd Gregory beat Jason Tendler 5 7 6
 Aled Howell beat John Robinson 4 -11 9 5
 Daniel O'Connell beat Koray Ozcan -5 6 9 9
 Dean Cundy beat Chris Cox 4 10 -8 2

Man of the match: Lloyd Gregory

BRITISH LEAGUE - Division 1 South and Midlands by Colin Dyke

Kingfisher 4 OLOP IMPACT 4

This was the first match of the second half of the fixtures and OLOP came in to it with a 100% record. Their record exists no longer. An excellent Kingfisher performance left OLOP clinging to a draw and Kingfisher feeling as though they should have won the match outright. In the first four singles, only Aled was able to get us on the scoresheet with a comfortable win over Liam McTiernan (so 1-3 down). Next on the table the No 1's Lloyd and David Barr. And what a set it turned out to be. With the games level at 1-1, Lloyd was 10-3 up in the third and got jittery as David pulled back to 10-9. But a brave forehand saw Lloyd back in to the lead. Lloyd had match point in the fourth but David pulled it back. At this stage many players fold in the face of Dave's excellent defence but not Lloyd, putting together a string of fantastic forehand winning shots. A great win and his first against David. (Match score 2-3). Aled then put in a great performance to beat Neill Wright, who had earlier got the better of Lloyd. (Match score 3-3).

Then came the crucial set between Daniel and Chris Bush. Daniel went 2-0 up, Chris saved two match points in the third to take it. He then did exactly the same in the fourth. He then played like a man possessed in the fifth and poor Daniel didn't know what had hit him. So near but so far. Dean however bought back our pride when he overcame Liam McTiernan in 4 and we scored our first point ever in a British League match against OLOP. Let's hope the progress continues.

Match Details

Lloyd Gregory lost to Neil Wright 6 -9 -8 -9	Lloyd Gregory beat David Barr 9 -8 9 -10 6
Daniel O'Connell lost to David Barr -10 -6 -11	Aled Howell beat Neil Wright -9 9 8 8
Aled Howell beat Liam McTiernan 8 4 9	Daniel O'Connell lost to Chris Bush 7 11 -10 -11 -4
Dean Cundy lost to Chris Bush 7 -7 -11 -9	Dean Cundy beat Liam McTiernan 4 5 -7 8

Man of the match: Chris Bush

Sunday – 16th January 2011

Cippenham II 0 Kingfisher 8

Whilst an 8-0 scoreline makes this look like an easy win, I can assure you there were no easy games here. Our team all performed exceptionally well, working hard to wear the opposition down and then finishing strongly. Martin Chodounsky on his debut had great three straight wins over both Steve Munson and Robert Hansell, earning him man of the match in the process. Dean Cundy also kept a clean sheet whilst Lloyd Gregory and Nathan Thomas had to work that bit harder for their wins.

Match Details

Nathan Thomas beat Rafique Sarhadi 9 9 -11 9	Lloyd Gregory beat Rafique Sarhadi 5 -12 3 7
Lloyd Gregory beat Nick Brown 9 -8 3 9	Nathan Thomas beat Stephen Munson 10 -6 9 7
Martin Chodounsky beat Stephen Munson 9 6 8	Dean Cundy beat Nick Brown 5 8 9
Dean Cundy beat Robert Hansell 5 11 2	Martin Chodounsky beat Robert Hansell 9 8 6

Man of the match: Martin Chodounsky

BRITISH LEAGUE - Division 1 South and Midlands by Colin Dyke

Sportingbet Guernsey 4 Kingfisher 4

In the end we had to settle for another draw with this team as we did in the first half but how close we came to a famous win and a share of second place in the table. Martin was desperately unlucky to lose at 14-12 in the fifth to Phil Ogier with a snick on the end of the table, having led 2-1. Lloyd also led 2-1 against their star player Gary Dodd only to be edged out at 8 in the fifth. But notable performances by Lloyd against Langlois and Nathan against Ogier earned us the point we richly deserved.

Match Details

Nathan Thomas lost to Gary Dodd 6 6 11	Lloyd Gregory lost to Gary Dodd 9 -8 6 -6 -8
Lloyd Gregory beat Olly Langlois 7 -4 7 7	Nathan Thomas beat Phil Ogier 8 -8 9 6
Martin Chodounsky lost to Phil Ogier 10 -6 6 -9 -12	Dean Cundy lost to Olly Langlois 9 6 5
Dean Cundy beat Dawn Morgan 5 5 -6 -8 7	Martin Chodounsky beat Dawn Morgan 5 9 -10 9

Man of the match: Gary Dodd

DIVISION 1 SOUTH AND MIDLANDS TABLE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
OLOP IMPACT	10	8	2	0	56	24	18
MOSSFORD I	10	5	3	2	46	34	13
SPORTINGBET GUERNSEY I	10	5	3	2	46	34	13
<u>KINGFISHER 1</u>	10	4	4	2	49	31	12
FUSION II	10	4	3	3	43	37	11
CIPPENHAM II	10	2	1	7	26	54	5
ASHFORD I	10	2	0	8	29	51	4
BRIGHTON CITY I	10	2	0	8	29	51	4

The ETTA now have a dedicated website for the whole of the British League and you can find reports, scores, averages and tables for all divisions on:

<http://www.tabletennis365.com/SBL>

BUTTERFLY TRACK SUITS FOR SALE

Brand new Butterfly track suits are for sale in 2 different styles and normally retail at £80 each (see the Butterfly catalogue for full details). Both styles have Kingfisher printed on the reverse of the top. The two styles available are:-

“Zegrist” Silver top and black trousers both with green facings. 1 medium and 1 large being sold for £25 each

“Chazara” Graphite with orange inserts - grey stripe on the trousers. Sizes small (2), medium (1), X Large (1) and XX Large (2) being sold for £30 each

First come first served.

Contact Brian Halliday on **0118 972 2421** or **e-mail: brianhalliday2@aol.com**

BRITISH LEAGUE - Division 4 South and Midlands by Eric van Looy

Kingfisher II Hold Their Own

The second British League team is holding up well in Division 4 South and Midlands. All players in the team are contributing to the good results that we are achieving, and with 8 points still up for grabs, we should be looking up, with potentially a third place as our goal. The results since the last report have been:

YORK GARDENS IV V KINGFISHER II	3 - 5
KINGFISHER II V WATERSIDE	5 - 3
WESTBURY V KINGFISHER II	7 - 1
ILFRACOMBE PIRATES V KINGFISHER II	5 - 3
KINGFISHER II V ELGRE NOTINGHAM III	1 - 7
WESTFIELD III V KINGFISHER II	2 - 6

The individual contributions of our players were:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>PLAYED</u>	<u>WON</u>	<u>LOST</u>	<u>%</u>
KEITH NEWELL	16	9	7	56.25
JAMES OLSSON	20	9	11	45.00
ERIC VAN LOOY	8	5	3	62.50
PAUL SAVAGE	12	5	7	41.67
STEVE MURGATROYD	12	4	8	33.33
CHRISTOPHER HAINES	8	3	5	37.50

The current League Table:

<u>Position</u>	<u>Team</u>	<u>Played</u>	<u>Won</u>	<u>Drawn</u>	<u>Lost</u>	<u>For</u>	<u>Against</u>	<u>Points</u>
1	ELGRE NOTINGHAM III	10	7	3	0	57	23	17
2	WESTBURY	10	7	1	2	49	31	15
3	WOODFIELD IV - UK DEAF	10	5	2	3	42	38	12
4	YORK GARDENS IV	10	3	4	3	40	40	10
5	WATERSIDE	10	4	1	5	43	37	9
6	<u>KINGFISHER II</u>	10	4	1	5	35	45	9
7	ILFRACOMBE PIRATES	10	2	2	6	32	48	6
8	WESTFIELD III	10	0	2	8	22	58	2

NATIONAL VETERANS LEAGUE by Colin Dyke

Squad: Derek Wood, Colin Dyke, Ivor Hardman and Eric Holmes

The first half of this season's National Veterans League was played at Blackpool on 6th and 7th November 2010. Having not won a match at this level for a number of seasons, Derek Wood, Eric Holmes and myself set off with some trepidation to the seaside town.

I am delighted to say we managed to break our duck and managed one win and a draw out of the five matches. It could have been more as we let a few close situations slip but it was undoubtedly the introduction of our "youth" policy bringing in 63 year old Derek Wood that swung the situation. One team in another division were boasting that they were the oldest team there until we pointed out that our 3 man team's combined age was 208, beating them hands down.



Results:

Lost 2-4 to Ilfracombe Pirates (Phil Goulding, Dean Taylor, Peter Kneil). Colin and Eric managed to beat No 3 Kneil but we couldn't get started in the other matches.

Drew 3-3 with Redland Bats 3 (Mick Bell, Phil Beresford, Dave Wilson). Derek and Colin beat Mick Bell whilst Eric pipped Dave Wilson at 9 in the fifth. If Colin hadn't lost 7 in fifth to Wilson we could have had a great win.

Lost 0-6 to Deptford Rams (Alex Facey, Chris Beckly, Rodney Farquharson). This was very strong opposition and only Derek managed to take a leg, from Facey.

Lost 0-6 to Pitlane (Roy Norton, Peter Ballard, Chris Turpin). Another tough opponent but Derek had found his best form by now and only narrowly lost out in five to both Ballard and Norton.

Won 4-2 against Oakbank (Steve Whitaker, Andrew Braithwaite, Tom Samsen). Derek purring by now in beating both Braithwaite and Whitaker three straight. Eric and Colin both beat Samsen and we recorded our first win for years.

The second half in Bristol is not now until 7/8 May 2011 but we shall be determined to improve on our first half results. Anyone fancying their chances in this tough competition next season (particularly younger vets) should contact me to find out more (01189 783770)

SILLY JOKE (1 warned you!)

One day, the teacher walks into her classroom and announces to the class that on each Friday, she will ask a question to the class and anyone who answers correctly doesn't have to go to school the following Monday.

On the first Friday, the teacher asks, "How many grains of sand are in the beach?" Needless to say, no one could answer.

The following Friday, the teacher asks the class, "How many stars are in the sky?" and again no one could answer. Frustrated, little Johnny decides that the next Friday, he would somehow answer the question and get a 3 day weekend. So Thursday night, Johnny takes two ping-pong balls and paints them black. The next day, he brings them to school in a paper bag.



At the end of the day, just when the teacher says, "Here's this week's question," Johnny empties the bag to the floor sending the ping-pong balls rolling to the front of the room. Because they are young kids who find any disruption of class amusing, the entire class starts laughing.

The teacher says, "Okay, who's the comedian with the black balls?"

Immediately, little Johnny stands up and says, "Lenny Henry, see ya on Tuesday!"



MID SEASON TEAM REPORTS



Bracknell Wokingham and District League (contact Peter Goatly on 0118 9782632)

Kingfisher "A" - Premier Division



The "A" team are in 3rd place 1point below the "B" team BUT they have 2 matches in hand and with every set won counting a point in this division that is a big BUT. John Morris has a creditable 75% average - how does he do it!

Allan Bruton
(Capt.) Editor

J. Willcocks; R. Woolven-Allen; J. Morris; G. Civil; P. Mead

Kingfisher "B" - Premier Division



The "B" team are in second place currently 1 point above the "A" team but have played 2 more matches. The first placed team (OLOP A) are way ahead looking uncatchable. Richard Fifield has an average of 83%.

Editor

Peter Goatly
(Capt.) T. Organ; P. Bennett; R. Fifield; C. Dyke;
S. Mitchell

Kingfisher "C" - Premier Division



Despite some close matches and some fighting spirit we are still lying at the bottom of the table. We have all improved as the season has gone on and in my humble opinion are only just shy of turning close defeats to close victories.

We are not giving up and will do our utmost to stay in the Premier Division.

Chris Pusey
(Capt.)

D. Duncan; J. Creighton; T. Cannon; M. Dorrington (res)

Kingfisher "D" - First Division

Top with a 10 point margin above Wokingham B. There is still along way to go but with averages of 88% (Daniel Grover), 85% (Jeff Huggins) and 79% (Allen Pack) they will take some beating.

Editor

N. Lynch (Capt.); J. Huggins; A. Pack; D. Grover

Kingfisher "E" - Second Division At first glance the "E" team look comfortable at mid-table (4th) but looks can be deceiving. They are only 3 points above the team 2nd from bottom. Diane Taylor has a creditable average of 83% (10/12). Editor.

D. Crombie (Capt.); G. Bennett; D. Taylor; P. Cunnington; D. Spicer.

Reading League (contact Sylvia Bruton 0118 901 9119)

Kingfisher "A" - First Division There not quite having it all their own way having drawn 2 (no losses of course) but are still only 3 points above YMCA "A" in second place who have a match in hand. Hari Gehlot has his usual good average of 92%. Editor.



H. Gehlot (Capt.); R. Gehlot; M. Banks; S. Williams

Kingfisher "B" - First Division Currently lying 5th from bottom (8th from top if you prefer!) 6 points ahead of the "C" team who are 2nd from bottom. Looking comfortable as long as they don't get complacent. Editor

G. Civil (Capt.); C. Putterford; C. Dyke; E. Van Looy; M. Knowles

Kingfisher "C" - First Division We got off to a great start with a draw against Tidmarsh B, but this was the only point that we could get in the first half of the season. A good start to the second half with a win this time against Tidmarsh B. In the second match against Kingfisher B, we had a very close match, only to lose 6 - 4.

The whole team of Trevor, John, Dave, Roger and myself are all playing well, and we have lost many games in 5 sets, but as we know Division 1 is very tough. Sadly to say it is unlikely that we will survive, but this will not be for the lack of any team member's effort to win games and we will all continue to do our best. Best of luck to all team members for the rest of the season, lets keep up the fight to the end, we may surprise some teams.

I. Hardman (Capt.); T. Organ; R. Woolven-Allen; J. Morris; D Bishop

Reading League (contact Sylvia Bruton 0118 901 9119)

Kingfisher "D" - Second Division



N. McGraine
(Capt.);

Currently lying only 1 point behind Sonning Common "A" who are top but have played one more match. It's clearly going to be tough to take away the top spot from Sonning but with Niall and Richard on averages of 96% and 89% respectively, if they can just maintain their form..... Editor

C. Chard; L. Williams; R. Fifield; S. Mitchell

Kingfisher "E" - Second Division



A. Bruton(Captain)

P. Goatly; P. Bennett; P. Mead; E Holmes

Either 7th from top or 5th from bottom whichever you prefer but 8 points above the team 2nd from bottom makes it look like a mid-table finish.

Editor

Kingfisher "F" - Second Division



Chris Pusey
(Capt.)

Clearly we are all finding this Division a little (maybe a lot!) tough. However, despite the losses we are still managing to enjoy the TT and in my opinion we are all improving. We have already had our second draw of the season since the restart after Christmas. Our only chance of survival (and it's a slim one) is to

beat the two teams immediately above us, namely Post Office "A" and Sonning Sports "A". This would give us 6 points BUT it does require them not getting any points from anybody else and they have got to play each other! Hmmmmmmm.

As I said before, just enjoy the games guys!

D. Duncan; A. Pack; J. Creighton; D. Gostellow; T. Cannon

Kingfisher "G" - Third Division

This team is also finding it tough lying 2nd from bottom with 5 points equal with Pangbourne but reasonably clear of our "H" team who only have 1 point. The team above them have 7 points but unfortunately both these teams have matches in hand so staying up looks like a tall order.

Editor

S. Woolnough (Capt.); M. Dorrington; D. Taylor; K. Robb

Kingfisher "H" - Third Division

Looking like a tough season with only 1 point so far. However, I know what its like to be at the bottom (see left) so I hope they are still managing to enjoy their games.

Editor

M. Houghton (Captain); G. Dodd; L. Long; A. Bruton (res.)

Kingfisher "I" - Fifth Division

Another team struggling to stay up lying in joint second place (from bottom) with Post Office "C" but with only 3 points covering 5 places in the table anything is possible. Andrew Talaga has a notable average of 59%.

Editor

D. Crombie (Capt.); D. Spicer; A. Talaga; P. Cunnington

Kingfisher "J" Sixth Division

Another Kingfisher lying at the top of their division. They are 8 points clear and unbeaten so looking very good if they can maintain their form. The averages show that Gabor Radnoti (96%) and Joaquin Munoz Sabater (78%) are the players to watch.

Editor

D. Garcon (Capt.); S Mitchell; G. Radnoti; J. Thepaut; J. Sabater

Kingfisher "K" - Sixth Division

Another team lying mid table but far from comfort as they are only 2 points above 2nd from bottom. Derek Spicer is doing well with an average of 84%. He needs the other guys to play their socks off if they are to maintain their position. Editor

G. Bennett (Captain); D. Spicer; J.Cummings; A. Gurney; H. Sparks

Maidenhead League

(contact Eric Van Looy on 01628 621322)

Kingfisher "A" - Premier Division

The team is currently lying in second place 6 points behind Cippenham Saxons despite having won two more games. This is a case where a point for every set one is not working out in Kingfishers favour. However, I think true talent will win through in the end and I reckon they will still get that top spot and retain their crown unless Cippenham Spartans in third place with a match in hand don't make the most of it. More difficult to call than I first thought.....

If you ignore Mark Banks (sorry Mark!) whose 100% average is only after playing one match, it's Ramesh who is leading the side with an average of 87% supported by Trevor Organ with 78% but having only played 3 matches.

Editor

E. Van Looy (capt.); R. Gehlot; C. Dyke; A. Cummings;
T. Organ (res.)



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PARTY-loving PRINCE HARRY had a lively table tennis tussle with KINGS OF LEON.

He faced off against NATHAN FOLLOWILL in a hard-fought clash at London's O2. And it was the US drummer who emerged triumphant.

A gloating Nathan said: "We're still pretty wide-eyed about meeting dignitaries but he's the cool prince I think. He picked up a ping-pong bat backstage and we went at it."

The Nashville rocker was urged to give Her Maj's grandson an easy ride during the contest, but refused to be intimidated by the third in line to the throne.

He added: "I'm not sure what the etiquette is when you play a prince at table tennis, but hey, I'm a king aren't I? A king trumps a prince. I think the other guys thought, 'Maybe you should let a real prince win'. But he is so tall and he's got military training so I figured he can look after himself. It was a hard-fought battle but I took him in the end. I guess no one trod on the ball - that destroys a game of table tennis. Again I'm impressed by the prince's taste in music. He is a pal of **DIZZEE RASCAL** and invited dubstep threesome **MAGNETIC MAN** to Buckingham Palace at the back end of last year."

And Nathan is now a fan of his as well - offering his band's services if the playboy royal ever settles down.





The Kingfisher Table Tennis Club

The Kingfisher Club was inaugurated on 19th March 1987.

The Club is an accredited ADVANCED PREMIER CLUB bringing great benefits to the Club and its members. We also have SPORT ENGLAND CLUBMARK status. More information can be obtained from Sylvia Bruton on 0118 901 9119.

The Club aims to cater for all standards of play but actively encourages and trains younger players and has good links with Bulmershe School where the clubhouse is situated. Any information regarding coaching at the Club can be obtained from Jenny Andrews on 0118 989 1209.

The playing Membership of the club currently stands at over 130.

Teams are entered for all local leagues (Reading, Bracknell and Maidenhead Leagues) as well as National Junior and Senior Leagues. League play starts in September and ends late April.

During off season (late April to early September) various events are organised. These include:

- the Grand Prix held on every Monday night from May to early August over 12 weeks the results of each being published in the local press (30p to enter - prizes for the top 3 performers). Starts 7.30pm.
- the Club Knockout Tournament held in early May
- The Kingfisher Super League in August
- a pre-season group tournament limited to the first 16 players who enter
- Club night every Thursday evening from 7.30 - just add you name to the board and play whoever comes next

Articles, ideas, views, etc. can be published in this Newsletter by contacting Chris Pusey on 0118 966 4947. Any amusing information or stories in connection with the Club would be appreciated by Roger Woolven-Allen on 0118 947 8833.

Any membership queries should be directed to Eric van Looy on 01628 621322.

Any other queries should be addressed to the Hon. General Secretary, Les Andrews on 0118 989 1209

The Club AGM is held in May each year.

**We're on
the Web**

www.kingfisherttc.co.uk

*Website Manager:
Allen Pack*

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